FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Al-Naqurah Talks — The 24 January Lebanese-Israeli military talks in Al-Naqurah ended without agreement on a date for the next session, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Reporting on the talks, the radio said Israel rejected Lebanon's demand for a timetable. A Lebanese delegation spokesman, in an official statement cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, said that Lebanon remains prepared to discuss a withdrawal rather than a "redeployment." Meanwhile, the head of the Israeli delegation opined that the Syrians are behind Lebanon's disregard for Israel's sincere intention to withdraw, according to IDF radio.

In a related report, UN envoy Brian Urquhart, after a 25 January meeting with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, said he will continue to work for an "orderly transfer" of IDF-evacuated areas to the Lebanese Army or UN force, Jerusalem radio confirmed. Later, Beirut radio reported Urquhart's comment, following a meeting in Beirut with Lebanon's Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk, that he does not believe the "work at Al-Naqurah has reached an end."

Security — News agencies reported that Israel's Al-Nabatiyah military governor and two senior officers were killed in a Lebanese resistance fighters' ambush on 24 January near Al-Nabatiyah, Beirut radio related. In a separate incident, an IDF force killed six "terrorists" near Jazzin, ITIM reported citing an IDF spokesman.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak, in a speech broadcast by Cairo radio, asserted that the Palestinian cause and the Middle East peace issue will top the agenda of his talks with President Ronald Reagan in Washington during the first week in March. Stressing that the achievement of a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement would provide a "positive" factor for the talks with Reagan, Mubarak noted that Egypt is continuing consultations with Jordan and the PLO to secure such an agreement, which could pave the way for peace talks aimed at attaining Palestinian rights. Mubarak also expressed regret that Arab states have kept silent about the recent official statement by a "fraternal Arab state" to the effect that the PLO no longer represents the Palestinian people. Mubarak reminded the Arabs that Egypt has never repudiated the Rabat summit resolutions, which upheld the PLO's right to represent the Palestinians, and he emphasized his support for the PLO leadership's refusal to be an instrument for implementation of the policy of a "certain Arab state."

Libya

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a message to leaders of Arab countries carried by JANA, called for the severance of relations with Sudan as the first step in isolating the Sudanese regime.

Western Sahara

The Saharan Information Ministry, in a report cited by Algiers radio, maintained that the new security wall was breached and 1,000 Moroccan troops put "out of action" during the first 2 weeks of January.

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PLO Tunis Meetings End With 'Major Decisions'

JN240924 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 85 p 1

[Lamis K. Andoni Dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Central Committee of Fatah, the biggest commando group within the PLO, ended two days of joint meetings here and took "several major decisions" concerning the security of Palestinian refugees living in south Lebanon and the future course of the organisation.

A joint statement was expected to be issued later on Wednesday evening or Thursday, and a senior Fatah official told the *JORDAN TIMES* that one of the major decisions taken during the meetings was to seek U.N. help to ensure the safety of Palestinian refugees living in camps in south Lebanon after Israel withdraws from the region.

Israel announced last week that it was planning to stage a three-phase withdrawal of its troops from Lebanon, which it invaded in 1982, and Palestinian Leaders have expressed fears that the pro-Israeli militias in south Lebanon might carry out attacks against residents of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp and other Palestinians living there.

Immediately after Israel announced its decision to withdraw unilaterally from Lebanon, without coordinating the pullback with the Lebanese Government to allow Beirut to move in Lebanese Army soldiers to the areas to be vacated, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced that he was seeking U.N. help to protect the Palestinian refugees living in south Lebanese camps. The senior Fatah official told the *JORDAN TIMES* that the joint meeting approved Mr. 'Arafat's decision and decided to contact U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to implement it.

Another important decision taken during the meeting was to appoint Shafiq al-Hut, the PLO representative in Beirut, as the PLO Executive Committee's special representative in the U.S. The PLO now maintains an information office in Washington, but it was not immediately clear whether Mr. al-Hut would take over that office, or that he would replace Zuhdi al-Tarazi as the PLO representative to the U.N., or that he would be a sort of roving ambassador for the PLO in the U.S.

The meetings also decided to give the green light to a fact-finding committee to probe events in north Lebanon in mid-1983 involving a rebellion within the ranks of Fatah and which resulted in the evacuation of Mr. 'Arafat and over 4,000 PLO fighters from Lebanon. The committee was formed during the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), held in Amman last November.

The committee, headed by Salah Barghuti, an independent member of the PNC, is charged with drawing up a report on the events in Tripoli and submit it to the PLO Executive Committee on the events in north Lebanon and the role various PLO factions might have played in the rebellion and the bloody clashes that followed it.

Further Report

LD241857 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee today ended its Tunis meetings, which commenced 3 days ago, under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

WAFA reported that during the meetings they discussed current Palestinian, Arab and international issues. WAFA pointed out that the Executive Committee made decisions on a number of administrative and political subjects and issues, including the formation of the board of directors of the new National Fund, and referred a number of issues to the monitoring and Accounting Committee for examination. The Committee also issued a directive to the Administrative Reform Committee to carry out its mission [word indistinct] the chairman of the PNC. It also supported calling a Central Council meeting in the middle of next month, following consultation with the PNC chairman.

The committee adopted a number of important resolutions concerning the consolidation of the steadfastness of the Palestinian people inside the occupied land and supporting the struggle in south Lebanon.

'Arafat Says PLO Committed to Fedayeen Operations

GF241810 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] In a press statement published in Cairo today, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, asserted that the PLO is committed to escalating fedayeen action against the Zionist occupation of occupied Palestine. He said that the escalation of the armed fedayeen action has a special priority for the PLO leadership. He added: We and our Lebanese allies succeeded in waging a bleeding war of attrition against the Zionist enemy in southern Lebanon. The Zionists admitted that.

Brother Abu 'Ammar denounced, in his statement, the policy of the U.S. Administration toward the dispute in the region. He said: President Ronald Reagan's administration favors the Zionist enemy. He went on to say that the U.S. Administration is not only biased against the Palestinian issue but it opposes the whole Arab nation.

'Arafat Receives African Leaders' Messages

JN241751 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received written messages from the leaders of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles, Nigeria, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, and Mali. Our correspondent has learned that the African leaders' messages affirmed their absolute support for the Palestinian people's struggle. They also voiced support for the PLO, the Palestinian

people's sole legitimate representative, and for all PLO initiatives at the international level to safeguard the Palestinian people's legitimate, just rights.

PNC Speaker on Israeli Threats to Jordan, PLO

JN251048 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Jan 85 pp 1, 16

[Nizar al-Dissi dispatch]

[Text] Amman — PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has rejected recent threats by the Zionist enemy's chief of staff to Jordan and the PLO on operations being perpetrated in the occupied homeland. In a statement to *AL-DUSTUR*, Al-Sa'ih said he personally cannot say that he has any knowledge about details of these operations. But he did state frankly that Israel must not expect the PLO, Jordan, or Arab countries to become factors of appeasement contributing to Israel's stability or to its presence in Palestine unless it is ready to deal with the Palestinian cause and recognize the Palestinian people's right to repatriation and the establishment of their independent state.

Al-Sa'ih said Israel must also not expect the PLO to absolve itself of these operations. The Palestinians are struggling for their cause and are considered to be in the position of defendants of their rights and their own lives. He added that the right of self-defense and the protection of one's rights are acknowledged by the UN Charter as natural rights. He said the Palestinians cannot relinquish these rights since they have not yet regained them.

Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih also commented on Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri's statements to *THE WASHINGTON POST* on allowing the immigration of Ethiopian Jews, Falashas, outside Sudanese territory. He said the PLO can never accept an Arab regime's becoming a factor that contributes to strengthening the Zionist entity, whether on the military, human, or economic level, as this would prolong the presence of this entity in our homeland, Palestine.

Al-Sa'ih said the regime in Sudan should have been more decisive and shown more alertness to prevent those Jews escaping from Ethiopia from immigrating to occupied Palestine. He stressed that under no circumstances and for no reason whatsoever can the PLO accept Sudan's becoming a source of strength for Israel or a source of Jewish immigrants to Palestine.

On the other hand, Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih said that the Iraqi and Palestinian people are the target of the same conspiracy and a common enemy, the Iranian regime and the Zionist entity. Al-Sa'ih said this during during his meeting with Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan in Amman yesterday evening. He added that the Iraqi and Palestinian people will monitor events and continue to remain alert in their confrontation of all conspiracies in order to foil them thanks to their wise leadership. He also stressed the importance of Arab soldiarity in confronting imperialist and Zionist conspiracies aiming at liquidating the Palestinian revolution and preventing Iraq from assuming its pan-Arab role.

The two sides reviewed the advanced relations between Iraq and the PLO and ways of promoting them in the service of just Arab causes.

Israeli Military Vehicle Attacked Near Bethlehem

JN241714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] In accordance with the revolution leadership's directive and decision to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main arena of conflict, our heroic revolutionaries are intensifying their operations against the Zionist occupation forces and equipment, inflicting further losses in life and equipment on them. Using incendiary bombs, they attacked a Zionist military vehicle yesterday evening while it was passing near Al-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem in occupied West Bank. The Zionist vehicle was burned, and all of its occupants were either killed or wounded in the attack.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately imposed a curfew on the steadfast Palestinian camp, carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of collaborating in the operation.

Israeli Patrol Attacked Near Sidon 24 Jan

JN241754 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1620 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] A Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance group launched a machine gun and hand grenade attacked this morning against a Zionist military patrol near the eastern hills overlooking 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon in occupied southern Lebanon. A large number of Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

Nigerian Oil Minister: Higher Crude, Lower Price
AB241005 Lagos NAN in English 0950 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Jeddah, Jan 23 (OPECNA/NAN) — The petroleum and energy minister, Prof Tam David-West, has urged OPEC to either increase the price of its heavy crudes or lower the benchmark price currently $29 (about N22) per barrel, according to a report in Jeddah. He made the remarks in an interview published in the Saudi newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*.

The minister was in Riyadh at the weekend to attend an OPEC technical meeting on oil price differentials in preparation for the OPEC ministerial conference, which opens in Geneva on Monday.

He told the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY before leaving for home that the two-day technical committee meeting had adopted a number of proposals which would be discussed by the ministers. Expressing optimism that OPEC would find a solution to the differentials issued, Prof. David-West said that the committee had made "notable progress" and that an agreement was likely soon.

In the newspaper interview, the minister stressed that Nigeria was keen to help maintain OPEC unity and solidarity. He said that Nigeria's current oil output was around 1.26 million barrels per day. He added that last week's decision by a non-OPEC member to link its North Sea oil prices to spot market levels would have only a "psychological effect."

KUWAIT

Belgian Crown Prince, Officials Hold Talks

LD241213 Kuwait KUNA in English 1032 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 24 (KUNA) — Belgian Crown Prince Albert who is heading an economic team to Kuwait started talks with ranking officials Thursday [24 January].

In a meeting with Commerce and Trade Minister Jasim al-Marzuq the Belgian chef-de-mission discussed means to develop trade exchange between the two countries and bolstering economic cooperation.

Prince Albert later met with Oil and Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah. The two officials discussed launching joint investment ventures and economic projects, in addition to reviewing cooperation in petroleum fields. The balance of trade between the two countries tilts to the Belgian side. Belgian exports to Kuwait which were valued at 63 million dollars in 1983 were met by 20 million dollar oil imports from Kuwait.

Prince Albert who is on a Gulf tour has headed the 44-man economic team to the UAE and will leave here to Qatar Sunday [27 January].

Stock Market Crisis Seen as Election Issue

GF231246 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 22 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] The Al-Manakh [stock market] crisis and the way it was handled by both the government and the National Assembly is a major campaign issue among candidates for next month's elections in Kuwait. Many candidates have said that not enough was done to solve the crisis or to punish those involved.

Dr Khalid al-Wasmi said he was against any attempt to use the Future Generations Fund to help those whose speculated in the market, and "wreaked havoc on the economy." "Instead of being helped they must be exposed and punished," he said. A former deputy, Badr al-'Ujayl said the last assembly had not dealt with the crisis adequately. He said the law should have been strictly applied and wrongdoers punished. This view was supported by Amjad al-Tukhaym who said that the assembly should have been more firm in its handling of the situation.

The candidates put forward their views on Al-Manakh during interviews with Arabic newspapers that they hoped the next assembly would review the tax system in Kuwait, the country's housing problem and also work to achieve the ambitions of the Kuwaiti people.

Dr al-Wasmi, in an interview with *AL-SIYASAH*, said he was opposed to any form of sectarianism or tribalism, as this only divided society and created dangers. Dr al-Wasmi also referred to the Gulf war, which he described as the "dirtiest war in history," which aimed to destroy not only people and economies but also ideas and ideals and to create sectarian problems between the Iranians and Arabs who were all Muslims. He also said he believed that Arab regimes did not want to solve the Palestinian problem, because they used it as a "coat hanger on which to hang their mistakes."

Al-'Ujayl in an interview said democracy in Kuwait was not like that in other countries, where parliamentarians were elected on the basis of a party with a specific programme. He said he believed that the party system created quality men who could then be chosen for ministerial posts. Al-'Ujayl said he was not expecting any major achievements from the new assembly, because Kuwait's constitutional situation did not leave the way clear for an assembly which could achieve anything new.

Another candidate, Dr Mustafa Marafi, told *AL-WATAN* newspaper that the new assembly should work to increase public participation by strengthening constitutional establishments. Dr Marafi said he believed that women and young people over the age of 18 would be allowed to vote as they bore the same responsibilities in society as those who were eligible to vote now.

A former minister, Rashid al-Farhan who is seeking election, said he had accepted a ministerial portfolio in 1967, because HH the crown prince and prime minister had called on people to step forward and help work for reforms.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince 'Abdallah Interviewed by French Weekly

LD232340 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2145 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Jan (SPA) — Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has given a wide-ranging interview to the French weekly *L'EVENEMENT*, which the paper will publish tomorrow.

In this interview, Prince 'Abdallah deals with Saudi-French relations, conditions in the Arab region, the role of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom regarding solidarity among the Arabs, and the role of the Kingdom within OPEC and the GCC, which he described as a positive and successful step on the road toward all-embracing Arab unity.

The following is the text of the prince's statement to the French weekly *L'EVENEMENT*.

Question: What does Your Highness expect from your forthcoming visit to France? What are Your Highness' views in regard to the current French attitude toward the Middle East and what do you hope France will do in the Arab region in the future?

Answer: As everybody knows, France is probably the principal European country with whom we cooperate in almost all fields. Our cooperation with friendly France covers military, economic, cultural and technological fields. This underlines our political cooperation in the Arab region and the world at large. In view of this, I believe that French-Saudi relations are no longer circumstantial but organic in the full sense of the word. As to the French attitude toward Middle East issues, it is a positive and sound one, which I can describe as one of positive neutrality. By the words

positive neutrality I do not mean the sense this term had in the fifties, but an attitude which reflects good intentions and persistence, fair judgement and reasonableness.

As to the role I would like to see France play in the future, I do not need here to remind you of France's heritage and history. Since its glorious revolution toward the end of the 18th century, France has been the first European country that has worked and continues to work for the creation of some form of a United States of Europe. For this reason, I am extremely hopeful that France will be a force that drives the EEC member countries to find just solutions to Middle East problems.

Question: During the seventies, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has been a star in the world press. However, its economic and political roles today do not seem to enjoy the attention they commanded before. What is the truth and what role should your country play in the international community. Do you possess the means that would enable you to achieve your aspirations?

Answer: Undoubtedly you mean that the oil was the star of the world press in the seventies, and that its role has changed. Saudi Arabia has not changed either in essence or in course. Hence, I still believe that its role is humanitarian rather than merely economic or political.

We in the Kingdom know that we live in a material world. Unless a human being is degraded to the level of a thing, he realizes the price of everything and does not realize the value of anything. Man uses the balance of payments as a measure for all values. However, our knowledge of the world will not make us change our outlook on the real values of life. We believe that giving is the best means of gaining.

Undoubtedly, everybody remembers the position of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom inside and outside OPEC in the seventies. The Kingdom has placed oil at the service of man and did not use it as a means for man's exploitation and misery. This is in addition to the aids and loans it granted to various organizations and countries.

As to our aspirations, they are not intended to be in the limelight. We perform our duty toward humanity as a whole. Hence, our ambitions call for good -- to seek it and to work for it. As to our means, they are our intentions, willpower and actions within the limits of our capabilities.

Question: Washington and Moscow are sitting together at the same table in Geneva. Jordan has just obtained Soviet weapons. Will you carry out any initiative toward the Soviet Union in the future?

Answer: This depends on the circumstances prevailing at the time. His Majesty King Husayn and other brother Arab leaders know the interests of their countries better than anybody else.

Question: French circles consider that Saudi Arabia does not want Iraq to emerge victorious from its war with Iran, and also would not be happy with an Iranian victory over Iraq. Has Your Highness any explanation or commentary on what these circles think?

Answer: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia still considers the existing war between the two Muslim sisters, Iran and Iraq, as the most tragic of tragedies. The Kingdom does not wish or want the Gulf war to end with a victor and a vanquished. The victory of a brother over his own brother is not a victory, and the defeat of a brother by his own brother is a defeat for both brothers. Since the begining of the war between the two Muslim neighbors, the Kingdom has exerted efforts at all levels and in the various international circles, whether Arab or Islamic or others, in order to put an end to this human tragedy which exhausted the resources of both countries and destroyed all that the two fraternal peoples have built, and whose victims were tens of thousands dead, hundreds of thousands wounded and mutilated, and more than 3 million homeless. Iraq has responded to the peace efforts, and we are now waiting for a response to the peace efforts from fraternal Iran.

Question: It is well known that Your Highness has very strong relations with Morocco. Saudi Arabia has given Morocco every kind of aid, including petroleum. Also, your forthcoming visit to Algeria shows that Saudi-Algerian relations are excellent. Do you think that this visit will give Your Highness the chance to carry out a role which will restore to the Moroccan-Algerian relations their fraternal character?

Answer: What is happening today between Algeria and Morocco was and is still the most important preoccupation of the Kingdom since the beginning of the Moroccan-Algerian crisis. There is no doubt that everybody knows what the Kingdom, headed by his majesty, is currently making efforts to remove the dark clouds from the horizons of the two fraternal countries. The Kingdom does not simply stand by waiting for a chance or occasion to reconcile our two dear sisters, Morocco and Algeria. Therefore, my visit to Algeria will a continuation of the efforts to restore normal relations between Morocco and Algeria.

Question: The PLO under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat represents the Palestinian peoples, but there are many non-Palestinian quarters which interfere in internal Palestinian affairs. How does your highness visualize the fate of the Palestinians and their settlement in a homeland? And is peace possible in the Middle East?

Answer: There is no doubt that there were resolutions adopted at the Arab summit conference which stipulate that the PLO is the sole legitimate representataive of the Palestinian people. Moreover, the PLO is also a member of the Arab League, which means that from a legal point of view it is not an organization but, by the recognition of all Arab States, is an independent and sovereign state. This means that interference in its internal affairs is not permitted, a fact which the Kingdom has observed and continues to observe carefully and precisely.

Our first duty toward the Palestinian question is to preserve the unity of the PLO and to support its legality under all conditions and circumstances and to render it every support and assistance. Everything possible will be done to preserve the unity of the Palestinian ranks and goals.

As regards solving of the Palestinian question and the stability of the entire region, they depend on three things: 1) the right of

the Palestinian brothers to self-determination; 2)their right to return to their homeland; 3) their right to establish their own independent state.

The aforementioned three things are no longer subject to negotiations, deliberation or argument, but are a fundamental and integral basis for any solution.

As to your question on peace in the Middle East, to this I reply it is indeed very possible if the Palestinian question is justly solved, based on the three points I mentioned above. Moreover, this matter depends on Israel's response to the call of reason and conscience. I advise the Israelis to read the Old Testament and to contemplate the lessons contained in its scriptures. Departure from the laws of society is departure from the course of history, and this is tantamount to suicide.

Question: The Arab world is now divided. There are some who believe that the Arab world is in a state of near collapse. Does Your Highness agree with the views of these people? If not, what are the reasons for your optimism?

Answer: The view held by those who believe that the Arab world is in a state of collapse is wrong. The differences now prevalent among the Arab governments are symptomatic not structural; for the structure is the Arab nation. Undoubtedly, he who looks at the conditions of the Arab nation and its peoples will quickly realize that the Arab peoples are daily moving closer to each other and are harmonizing and interacting, and consequently they enjoy greater cooperation, harmony and cohesion.

Today, contacts among the Arab peoples are growing constantly. Means of communications and intellectual and social contacts, material interests such as business markets, employment and investment and above all religious faith, consolidate the joint collective feelings among the Arab peoples, turning them into a melting pot of one nation. Thus, if you were to look under the surface of the differences among the Arab governments, you will inevitably see that relations among the Arab peoples have gone from the stage of contact to that of integration.

It is for this reason that I do not share the pessimism of the pessimists. For as I have already said, the differences are superficial and do not affect the structure. They are superficial differences which do not have any connection with the Arab nation. They are artificial and completely alien to the course of the Arab nation and its cultural line.

Question Is the GCC a positive step toward all-round Arab unity?

Answer: When the charter of the GCC was drawn up it avoided all the mistakes which led to the failure of the unity experiments known to the present-day Arab world. It is not at all aimed at isolating the Gulf countries from the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Those who prepared the charter understood that the main reason for the failure of Arab unity attempts is the adoption of an impulsive course instead of an evolutionary one as a guide for federation or union. This made any unity or federation a mere formation and not a materialization; it was a union between the powers at the top rather than among the popular forces. A federation, similar to any organic entity, grows; it is not born complete. Integration takes time. A real and permanent integration is one between the interests of the peoples and not between the interests of the rulers.

Therefore, the leaders of the Gulf countries adopted an evolutionary course, a course of interaction between the interests of the Gulf peoples, transforming them into joint interests for all the sons of the Gulf countries. The leaders of the Gulf peoples were very keen to avoid the control of one GCC country over another. There is no big brother and little brother in the GCC. All are equal in their rights and duties. If we add to this the similarity between the Gulf peoples in traditions and customs and Islamic course, then I can confidently say that the GCC represents a positive and successful step, God willing, on the way to all-embracing Arab unity.

Question: French circles see some contradictions in your positions. These circles consider you as a conservative, and at the same time as a progressive. They see you as a friend of Hafiz al-Asad, and at the same time as a friend of Saddam Husayn. Could Your Highness give us a clue to solving this puzzle?

Answer: You are aware, no doubt, that this era has proved that many, if not all, political ideologies are wrong. All ideologies show discrepancies as well as contradictions. The Marxist countries, which consider capitalism as the fatal disease of humankind, are applying today a very unfair kind of capitalism; by this I mean state capitalism, which has been practiced by the Soviet Union since 1922 to this day. Also there are other countries, which are described as fierce capitalists, which adopt, through graduated income tax, a course which authorizes the state to take the greater part of the profit, which Karl Marx calls the surplus value, and makes the owners of economic establishments into mere managers.

Because of all this, I say that in this era the concept which was known in the 19th century and the second [as received] half of the 20th century has becoming meaningless. By this I mean the concepts of conservative and progressive. Now there are objective circumstances which statesman should use correctly, objective circumstances which develop and change with the development and change of time. Here the ability of the statesman could be tested though this method of using these circumstances to guarantee the consolidation of the dignity of the individual, spiritually and physically.

Therefore, in order to understand the behavior of a statesman or a man who works in public service and in order to determine whether his course is conservative or progressive, we have to understand the objective circumstances and the nature of the stage from which these circumstances emerged. In fact, I think that the word conservative has no meaning in reality. Conservativism, in the dialectic sense, is impossible because the times are constantly changing.

As to your question about my being a friend of President Hafiz al-Asad, and at the same time a friend of President Saddam Husayn, I reply by saying that the policy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, since the late King 'Abd al-'Aziz, has promoted a policy

of Arab solidarity. There is no doubt that solidarity should be preceded by conciliation, followed by harmony, solidarity, and joint action. There is no doubt that if anyone wants to reconcile two or more parties, then he should not side with any or them, but he should win the trust of all parties. This answers your question and shows that there is no contradiction in my course. Ministry, currently visiting the Kingdom. During the meeting, they discussed the means of promoting bilateral relations and also international issues. [Summary] [*Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Jan 85 GF*]

EEC-Saudi Trade — EEC exports to Saudi Arabia totalled $20 billion through the end of 1984, while imports by EEC countries from the Kingdom totalled $10 billion. This came in a statement issued by the Saudi Company for Basic Industries, Sabik. [Excerpt] [*Jeddah AL-MADINAH in Arabic 20 Jan 85 p 6 GF*]

PDRY

14 OCTOBER on Importance of Cabinet Meetings

GF250944 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] The newspaper *14 OCTOBER* says that the Cabinet meetings which began on 23 January and will continue until 26 January are of vital importance because they are being held at the beginning of 1985 — the year in which the Third YSP Congress is scheduled to be held.

In an editorial published in today's issue, *14 OCTOBER* says that the Cabinet is discussing several issues connected with the country's economic and social life in 1985, the most prominent aspect of which is the draft plan for the 5th year of the second 5-year plan for economic and social development and the bill organizing the plan.

The paper says that the rich experience of the institutions of the national economy at present clearly constitute one of the basic factors on which our economic activity relies in the various branches of production. One of the elements of such experience is the participation of the masses in running society's affairs and their various initiatives in fulfilling economic plans and programs. It thus becomes incumbent on party organizations and the economic apparatus to redouble their efforts and develop the ways and means of encouraging toilers to participate actively in implementing the 1985 development plan and carrying out the duties that lie before us in 1985 in preparation for the YSP congress and for the third 5-year plan.

In conclusion *14 OCTOBER* expresses the confidence that our country's toilers who have achieved great successes in the past year have demonstrated their unlimited ability in actively supporting the development process in the country so that 1985 will be a year full of creativity and action under the banner of the YSP which leads and directs the process of building the new Yemeni citizen and the new society toward wide socialist horizons.

Mubarak Addresses Academy on Police Day

NC241300 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1020 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Speech delivered by President Husni Mubarak at the police academy in Cairo on the occasion of the 33d anniversary of the confrontation between Egyptian policemen and British forces in Ismailia — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Brothers, before I begin my speech, I would like to say that as we all celebrate Police Day, we must remember the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the sake of Egypt's security and stability. As we remember these martyrs, we will also remember the martyrs from the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives to defend this country. [applause]

Brothers, I want you to stand up and observe a moment of silence to greet the souls of the martyrs.

Brothers, when we greet the martyrs' souls on Police Day, we remember them from the depths of our hearts with utmost esteem. There is nothing purer than a man who sacrifices his life for his homeland while doing his duty in protecting society from crime and in consolidating stability in Egypt. The martyrdom of these men is a story of manhood, bravery, and sacrifice that should be told to all generations so that Egypt's sons will know that those in charge of the country's security are heroes who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty and out of faith in the sovereignty of law. These heroes upheld the principle that a citizen's freedom means his respect for the freedom of other citizens and that a threat against a citizen's freedom is a threat against the homeland's freedom. Only free men can protect freedom.

We, therefore, must view every policeman in Egypt as a citizen who is proud of the law and whose mission is the homeland's security. These are the most splendid pictures of the discharge of national responsibility and respect of national duties.

Since Police Day is a commemoration of patriotism and sacrifice for Egypt's security and safety, the history of Egypt's policemen is abundant in great examples. These men made sacrifices under extremely difficult circumstances. Hence, it is no surprise that the international press lauds Egypt as a country of security, stability, and peace. [applause] It is no surprise to hear foreign diplomats in Egypt appreciating this fact and expressing their happiness to be living in Egypt and to be free from threats of terrorism. This is so because policemen in Egypt do their duty in a society whose pillars are based on love and bonds of friendship and cooperation. If we take a quick look at what is happening around us in this region and even in countries with advanced security capabilities, we will rightfully take pride in the great efforts being made by security officers in Egypt to prevent crimes and to apprehend criminals. In addition, there are fair judiciary and governmental organs that work for the people regardless of the problems facing us.

We do not doubt for a single moment that our democratic life has freedom of speech and is free from aggression on man's rights. There is utmost respect for the human being; his pride and his rights are protected by law. We do not doubt for a single moment that our democratic life is the pillar of security and stability and it is the citizens' asset in their feelings of affiliation with their land and society, and the sound premise for our work in achieving social justice. The security task is a document of national insurance to safeguard the democratic edifice and it is the expression of a collective responsibility to which all citizens rush to adhere, especially the policemen. I say collective responsibility because a policeman does not do his duty apart from the masses. In doing his duty he acts on behalf of every citizen. The masses view a policeman as a son who represents the society in establishing the supremacy of law and respect of freedoms and sanctities.

The security organ in Egypt, and the discharge of its duties in the name of the people and in their interest, stem from legal constitutional powers that strike a balance between rights and duties. Following the 23 July Revolution the legitimate authority in Egypt possessed the decisionmaking free from any foreign or external influence on this decisionmaking. Since then the state's organs in the various arenas of national action have been organs for the people and for all Egyptians, not differentiating among citizens. All are equal before the law, regardless of social standing or financial status. This fact is the basis of democracy.

In various events and on various occasions, policemen have proven that they use only one yardstick and that they place law and the constitution above any consideration. This is the sound and straightforward path toward entrenching social security and justice.

Brothers, terrorism in various parts of the world has for years imposed its influence and sought to return mankind to the law of the jungle, and Egypt is part of this world and is vulnerable. Egypt is a target for the ambitions of several forces that are tyring to shake stability in our land. The scientific development has enabled the advocates of terrorism to make use of this development in committing their bloody acts. All this has placed the heaviest and most difficult tasks on the policemen, and has doubled their responsibilities in facing the horrible dangers. Despite this, we thank God because security organs in our country can face up to their responsibilities out of conviction and in their performance.

If we have retained the emergency laws, this is only a means of protection in the interests of millions. The law has never been used, except for protection and safeguarding in extreme urgencies. There have been incidents that needed the use of the emergency law, but security officials resorted to the ordinary law. This is laudable behavior which deserves thankfulness. Yes, I know that there are cetain trends that try to protray clear things not as they truly are, seeking to defame. We all, however, know the goals of these trends. We hope that they will realize that the slogan: Egypt is all Egyptians, deserves that they rally around the national goal, which is the goal of all Egyptians. Security, safety, and safeguarding the sanctities of all Egyptians form the national goal that must not be harmed by anyone regardless of his political or ideological creed. Security for all comes first and then we can differ in our views. The national goal comes first as the focus of interest of all, and after that we can hold a frank dialogue.

Through such national understanding we can develop our political and social attitude to what can achieve a firm and integrated structure of the homeland.

On this occasion, I say and affirm that security does not exist at the expense of democracy nor democracy at the expense of the security of the homeland and the citizen. The balance and integration between the necessities of security and the requirements of democracy is the sound course which does not sacrifice the public interest and, at the same time, does not violate any legal or constitutional right. This is our clear policy by which we abide and which we apply meticulously and sincerely.

Brothers, we are in the third year of the 5-year development plan. All signs indicate that the plan is proceeding along its natural and charted course. As I have reiterated, the plan does not provide sedatives and does not resort to flashy, temporary solutions whose effects soon disappear and we then start again to move in a vicious circle. We want to solve problems from their roots and provide basic and comprehensive solutions. Therefore, the results do not appear immediately. I think that at the end of the first 5-year plan, in another 2 years, the people will see some of the results of the solution of basic economic problems. We will then embark on the second 5-year plan, which the government is now preparing, benefiting from the experience of implementing the first 5-year plan and carefully estimating international economic developments, particularly in the areas of oil and the raw materials necessary for industrialization.

Needless to say, if we had not resorted to the method of planning, which provides continuous solutions in accordance with priorities, we would have faced an extremely dangerous situation that has no remedy, especially after we were overwhelmed by accumulated problems over several years. The economic solutions are not a simple or an easy matter, because they are connected with internal conditions and influenced by international factors. The government has recently issued the necessary decisions to deal with the rationalization of imports in order to protect the citizen against uncontrolled prices and to provide hard currency, free from the danger of speculation, and to achieve a desired upsurge in production. I hope that experience will prove that these decisions were correct and timely.

There is no doubt that the provision of security and protection of society against exploiters and deviators — a group that exists in every human society — are two principal factors in the success of development and production. This is a continuous and unceasing battle. In fact, its burdens increase with the large increase in the population. The security officers are shouldering a basic responsibility in this regard. I would not be overstating the truth when I praise the major role fulfilled by the security services in raking agricultural land [tajrif al-ard al-zira'iyah] and protecting public property or protecting industrial installations. The movement for discipline on the Egyptian streets has begun, and good results have appeared. It is hoped that it will continuously expand. We want it to serve as a firm organizational basis for the citizen's behavior through which he can express his civilization and the civilization of his country. The people have been accustomed to upsurges of emotions and enthusiasm which soon disappear because they did not depend on sound administrative organization.

We have adopted seriousness as a slogan for rule and continuity as the basis of any organizational action. Therefore, I hope that discipline will broaden to include the various sectors that serve the masses. However, we all must realize that the government's machineries cannot cope alone. The masses' participation, with effectiveness, conviction, and awareness, is necessary to bring about a just balance between rights and duties. From this great field stems the responsibility of the popular and party organizations as well as the role of the information media. Party life is not only pointing out mistakes, concentrating on negative aspects, or criticizing shortcomings in any field. The other aspect of party responsibility is seeking to rectify mistakes and presenting practical ideas to promote positive aspects and to remedy shortcomings.

While we welcome press criticism, however hard it may be, and despite the fact that at times such criticisms exceed the limits of logic, at the same time we call for a press that will welcome the scientific and practical ideas of writers, experts, and persons of culture so that we may rectify the shortcomings and raise the general behavior to the desired civilized level.

Brothers, we must take all these factors into consideration while we are all seeking to consolidate the internal security pillars. This is matched with the same degree of importance by the achievement of external security and the protection of our territory and society against any aggression motivated by greed. In this respect, I praise our Armed Forces for their vigilance and unsparing efforts to be always at the developed effective level. We thank God that they have reached the required level. Thus the link between internal and external security is achieved. Subsequently there are close relations between the police and the Armed Forces.

Brothers, you are all aware that the road before us is a long one in easing the sufferings of the masses in several fields about which citizens are still complaining. They are right. If we cannot take a shortcut in seeking easy superficial solutions, we also cannot take big strides. Our strides are slow but confident and their goals are clear. Therefore, the services given to the masses by the various departments, including the police, must be further developed to ease the sufferings of the masses. We must restore the law's prestige and rule everywhere. We want firmness, but with justice. We want commitment, but with collaboration and cohesion. We want a policeman, who represents the law's prestige and rule, to interact humanely with the citizens. We want the police department to be the refuge and recourse for every person seeking his right. There he will find that care is accorded him under the law. I am aware that you are shouldering many heavy burdens. However, we all must know that this is the destiny of every honest citizen, whose responsibility led him into public service in a noble country that has been affected by a grinding economic crisis. Its citizens must compensate for what they lost in the past. Our sufferings can only be alleviated by honest work. The long road can only be cut short by men who perfrom their duty before demanding their rights. [applause] This is the constitution of the regime that seeks seriousness and integrity.

Dear brothers and sisters. If I am going to talk to you about the Arab and foreign situations, then I must discuss recent events: namely, the bold decision made by His Majesty King Husayn of

Jordan [applause] to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt. It is up to the rest of the Arab countries to decide for themselves if they wish to rectify the current situation regarding diplomatic relations. We only insist on one basic matter: namely, that the Arab will should be united during this momentous phase of repudiation, fragmentation, and division. There is nothing more dangerous for the crumbling Arab entity than for an Arab to shed the blood of his Arab brother, even among the forces that raise the slogan of revolution. Our consultations are continuing with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan and with the Palestinian brothers under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat so that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue may achieve an agreement that will pave the way for peace talks for the attainment of the legitimate Palestinian rights, foremost of which is their right to their land and to self-determination.

Egypt always welcomes anyone who comes for consultations in order to activate the Palestinian people's cause. This cause is now facing fierce international currents and is warding off Arabs who raise slogans but do not act accordingly. Regarding the struggle for the rights of the Palestinian people, I am optimistic so as to save wasted time and salvage what must be salvaged. Therefore, I appeal to every participant who is involved in determining the Arab fate to let wisdom reign over glittering words, to get rid of whims as he confronts the cause of the millions, and to be frank. There is nothing secret any longer to the vigilant Arab masses everywhere.

We must pause at this point. A short while ago, a fraternal Arab state issued an official statement that, in all clarity, meant that the PLO no longer represents the Palestinian people. Brothers, this statement completely contradicts the Arab commitment that was announced during the Arab summit conference resolutions and which said that the PLO is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This commitment was made through the consensus of all Arab states. Now that years have elapsed since this commitment was made — the commitment that has been transformed from a mere resolution into a conviction in which Arab people in every Arab country believe — an official statement has been issued by an Arab state that has always emphasized its adherence to the unanimous Arab resolutions issued by the Arab League. This statement says that the PLO no longer exists and no longer represents the Palestinian people. Why? What is the purpose of this? The reason is crystal clear: The PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat adheres to its independent decisionmaking, rejects trusteeship and subservience, and refuses to be an instrument for the implementation of the policy of a certain Arab state. This is a sound course on which no two persons can differ as long as the cause is the objective. However, it is a course that is not in keeping with the policy of exploiting the PLO and of using its national aims to achieve short-lived regional goals. This is why an official declaration was made that the PLO no longer represents the Palestinian people and the Rabat summit resolutions were thrown out.

I regret to report that no Arab state has raised its voice in defense of the unanimous Arab resolution. I also regret I mustemphasize that the Arab capitals have kept silent about this statement, as if they have neither heard nor read it, and cannot speak.

We are not advocates of discord, disputes, or differences. However, we are advocates of a stand that is respected by the Arab mind and that is dictated by Arab unanimity. It seems to me — and I hope I am wrong — that stands are adopted only if they are against Egypt, voices are heard only if they are directed against Egypt, and that commitment to Arab unanimity is mentioned only if the matter concerns Egypt.

Yes. It is my right to say this. I want to remind my Arab brothers of another situation: namely, when, after the peace treaty, violent storms erupted pouring their wrath on Egypt, the Egyptian statements referred to the Palestinian people whenever we mentioned the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Egypt never ignored the PLO, never dropped the PLO's representation of the Palestinan people, and never issued a statement cancelling the PLO, or its status as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

However, storms became more violent, wrath became two-fold, and Egypt became a target for attacks from all directions. Why? Because Egypt speaks about the rights of the Palestinian people although we did not revoke our commitment to the Rabat summit's resolutions. Perhaps we still recall that at the time Egypt was accused of adopting a policy of capitulation, defeatism, and treason. However, I do not recall that one single Arab statement was issued to caution against — and I do not say denounce or condemn — the official statement that was issued by a fraternal Arab state cancelling the PLO. For some reason and ambigious secret, all Arabs forget an Arab resolution that had been passed unanimously.

I repeat that I am absolutely not advocating discord and differences. We have had enough division, which has become tragic. May I recall that this Arab cooperation, which contradicts the unified stand, will not serve the cause, will never unite the ranks, and will only lead the Arab rank into an abyss and dismemberment.

However, despite the bitterness, this will not make us deviate from our principled position; that is, we will forge ahead regardless of the hurdles. Egypt's political and diplomatic struggle will not stop until the victory of the Palestinian people to regain their rights over their soil. [applause]

I have decided, God willing, to visit the United States during the first week of March to meet with the U.S. President. The Palestinian cause and the peace issue in the Middle East will top the agenda for the talks. There is no doubt that the achievement of a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement will represent positive factors for our talks with the U.S. President. I will also meet with the French president in Paris and with the British Prime Minister in London. My talks during the swift visit to Greece covered the situation in the Middle East and relations between the two countries.

As for the situation in Tabah, I need not reassert that Egypt will not forfeit one inch of sovereignty over Egyptian land. [applause]

Brothers, finally, I tell you that I am happy with this meeting and am reassured of the present steps. I hope that these steps will take us to a future replete with bright achievements, which can only be made through self-sacrifice, to minimize the sufferings. I

implore God Almighty to consolidate our ties and guide our steps so that we may proceed in unity toward achieving the aspirations. May God grant us success. May God's mercy and peace be with you. [applause]

Al-Baz Comments on Tabah Talks With Israel

NC241611 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs said that if the Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah produce an agreement, Egypt will view this as proof of the good intentions of both sides, paving the way for better relations in the future.

Al-Baz was answering a question during a meeting with newsmen at Al-'Urubah Palace today. One journalist asked him to comment on Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' stated opinion that there is a good chance for progress in the upcoming Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah.

Answering another question on whether Egypt accepts an observer's role for the MFO in Tabah, something the Israelis seem to want, Al-Baz said: We must leave that for the negotiators to decide. He added: We will raise this subject with the goal of reaching an agreement. Although this is a simple issue, we consider it an indication of the Israeli Government's behavior.

Al-Baz denied that Egypt has offered Israel $30 million for the installations and infrastructure in Tabah. He said that we have not yet reached this stage, and that we are in the process of evaluating the installations.

Al-Baz expressed his belief that a solution to this simple issue would be of use in dealing with other more important and fundamental issues in the coming weeks. In this context, he referred to the need for progress on the Palestinian issue and Israel's plans for withdrawal from Lebanon.

Ghali Calls For European Mideast Initiative

PM241207 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 14 Jan 85 p 22

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali by Dominique Lagarde in Paris — date not given]

[Text] *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*: The newspaper *AL-AHRAM* said just recently that Egypt intends to launch a "large-scale diplomatic campaign" to persuade the Western countries to be more active in the Near East. Is this true, and what will the aims of this campaign be?

Butrus Ghali: It is true, but in fact this campaign is not new. For almost 6 years we have been trying to persuade the EC to pay more attention to the Middle East crisis. We think that Europe, be it the community or each of the Ten taken individually, can play an extremely important role. It can do so first with the United States, with which it has considerable power of persuasion, second with the Israeli Labor Party, and third on some aspects of the Near East crisis, especially human rights violations in the West Bank and Gaza and the constant violation of the Geneva conventions (on the fate of the population in the occupied territories — *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS* editor's note). These are particular aspects of the situation in the Near East that deserve to hold Europe's attention and on which Europe could take action.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Do you think that this is the right time to revive diplomatic activity on the Near East? At present the United States and the USSR seem to be mainly concerned with the resumption of their own dialogue, which does not have the Near East as its priority, and the Ten, meeting in Dublin, have just refused to give Italy the mandate it requested to seek ways of launching a new initiative. In fact, it is as if the Near East is ceasing to be a hotbed of tension and as if people are losing interest in the region.

Butrus Ghali: This is precisely one of Egyptian diplomacy's main concerns. We want to prevent the Near East from becoming a secondary issue. This is one of our great worries. In 1984 we were told we must wait for the result of the elections in Egypt, Palestine (the PNC meeting — *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS* editor's note), Israel, and the United States. These elections are over, and we are now being told that the time is not right because the two superpowers are trying to settle their problems between themselves. However we are asking Europe to remind the superpowers that this is an urgent problem. If the West Bank and Gaza are eventually annexed, it will no longer be possible to have a peace process, since the whole peace process is based on the extremely simple idea expressed in Resolution 242 of November 1967: the territories in exchange for peace.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: That was what King Husayn said to the PNC in Amman....

Butrus Ghali: Not just King Husayn. It was also on this basis that the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel was signed, and the preamble to this treaty makes provision for this formula to be applied to the other territories by similar peace agreements.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: To what extent is your diplomatic activity coordinated with that of Jordan? You do not seem to have exactly the same position on the convening of an international conference, which is part of the Jordanian proposal but on which you have often seemed much more skeptical.

Butrus Ghali: There is full coordination between Jordan and us. Moreover, we are not opposed to the convening of an international conference. We simply add a footnote, so to speak, by saying that, pending such a conference, we must do something, if only temporarily.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Do you feel that the recent PNC meeting in Amman and the decisions made there will facilitate the search for a peace process?

Butrus Ghali: I think that the fact that this Palestinian parliament was able to meet, that it renewed Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's mandate, and that the meeting took place in Amman show that

the PLO is taking an attitude that should make it possible to envisage negotiations.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Yet the Palestinians are not willing or able to accept Resolution 242 as it stands....

Butrus Ghali: Resolution 242 is only one aspect of the problem. If people sit around a table and try to discuss matters, that in itself will be an initial step forward.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Let us turn to Franco-Egyptian relations, if you do not mind. Egypt does not seem to have been pleased at the rapid French withdrawal from Chad....

Butrus Ghali: We have regular consultations with France on the main international problems, including the problem of Chad. Moreover there was an Egyptian delegation at the Bujumbura Franco-African summit. There is complete agreement between our two countries.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: Did you not think the French withdrawal wasrather hasty?

Butrus Ghali: I think that is a purely internal matter. However we have the same attitude on support for the legitimate Ndjamena government, the withdrawal of Libyan troops, and Chad's territorial integrity.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS: I would like to ask you one last question on a current issue: What do you think of the way in which the Israelis have taken several thousand Ethiopian Falashas to Israel?

Butrus Ghali: It is a humanitarian gesture, given the famine Ethiopia is experiencing. However, we hope that the Falashas will be installed in Israel and not in the occupied territories, which would be a negative step.

Ghali Meets Italy's Andreotti in Rome

For Cairo MENA coverage of the visit to Italy of Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and his meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy section of the 25 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

AL-AHRAM Views U.S.-Soviet Mideast Talks

NC250714 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 25 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Only Hope in the Bilateral Talks" *AL-AHRAM* says: There is talk once again about preparations being made by Washington and Moscow to resume their consultations on the Middle East problem at the level of experts. What concerns us here is putting such a possible step in its true perspective. No one should think that this means a dramatic change that suggests that Washington and Moscow are nearing an agreement on the procedures for a political solution in the region.

AL-AHRAM adds that this possible step might be a good initiative to reduce the polarization that exists. This step might also be an indication of a reduction in the explosive tension in more than one place in the region but it does not at all mean that the two powers have a sincere desire to eliminate the causes of tension.

AL-AHRAM concludes by saying: The only hope for such a step to have value and meaning is represented by the extent of Washington's readiness to accept the idea of an international peace conference to be attended by all the concerned parties including the PLO. It is also represented by the Soviet Union's ability to propound logical and pragmatic ideas and initiatives and not carbon copies of some Arab regime's one-upsmanship and posturing.

AL-AHRAM Urges U.S. Firm Stand on Aid to Israel

NC250659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2310 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 24 Jan (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM* calls on the United States to stand firm in the face of Israel's demand for increased military and economic aid. Israel has submitted a secret memorandum to Washington, demanding $15 billion in aid up to 1988.

In an article that will be published tomorrow, the paper says that, to justify its demand, Israel has, in this memorandum, played an old tune, claiming that its security is being endangered by the Arabs and that it needs a deterrent force to protect it.

Washington, *AL-AHRAM* writes, does not need a reminder that the region's troubles cannot be alleviated by boosting Israel's power and arrogance. The trouble in the Middle East, the paper says, is that there is an occupation going on, that the occupied territories are being economically drained, and their physical features and demographics altered, and that the inhabitants of these territories are being driven out of their land.

The paper adds that Israel knows that the entire international community has witnessed that, throughout the Middle East conflict, Israel has always been the aggressor. In conclusion, the paper wonders: Have not the Israeli forces been occupying the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip since June 1967, and the south of Lebanon since June 1982 and up to now?

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,721

JN241746 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,721 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 24 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. By means of operations expressing true faith in the homeland's soil and the people's freedom, and embodying great courage and perfect performance, the proud Iraqis continue to strike at the reinforcements and remnants of aggression, asserting their absolute superiority and decisive victory, God willing. The following is a roundup of operations for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our gigantic Air Force planes continued to chase their prey in the Arab Gulf exclusion zone. Our planes discovered a medium-sized maritime target at 0930 [0630 GMT] today, and hit it accurately and effectively. Our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God, after adding a new target to the list of targets that have been hit with the help of God. Thus, by implementing Iraq's legitimate right to intercept the oil tankers in the exclusion zone so that the enemy would yield to the call for peace and recognize Iraq's legitimate rights, they have provided conclusive evidence that ends the Tehran rulers' lies and false claims.

2. With a daring and successful attack, the brave helicopter knights carried out an air raid against an enemy boat in the Maysan sector. They managed to destroy the boat and kill itsoccupants in a crushing blow. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of our forward units destoryed one 106-mm gun and damaged one tank.

3. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the operational sector east of Basra.

4. In a night ambush, one of our forward units in the central sector of the operational theater managed to kill two enemy troops and wound others. The enemy troops were heard calling for help.

5. The criminal enemy shelled the Al-Shihabi area with heavy artillery, demolishing one house.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 January 1985

President Husayn Chairs Cabinet Session 24 Jan

JN241257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jan (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn presided over a Cabinet meeting here today. During the meeting, which lasted approximately 5 hours, several topics on the agenda were discussed and the necessary decisions were made.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, vice president; RCC members; Ba'th Party Regional Command members; the head of the president's office; ministers; and state officials.

AL-QABAS Cited on Anti-Jordanian Camps in Syria

JN251337 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Jan (INA) — Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat has told the Jordanian House of Representatives that the Syrian ruling party congress, which concluded its work a few days ago, adopted secret resolutions on action against Jordan.

Reporting this in today's issue, the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* cited 'Ubaydat as stressing that the Syrian regime has set up camps to train special groups for this purpose. It added that 'Ubaydat disclosed details concerning all the recent incidents in Jordan, the latest of which was the assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi.

Deputies Stage Protest During Passport Debate

JN240955 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 24 Jan 85 p 1

[By Salamah B Ni'mat]

[Excerpts] Amman — The Lower House of Parliament voted during a closed session Wednesday in favour of implementing a controversial passport law after a heated debate, and despite a walkout by seven deputies protesting against the House's decision to vote on the issue before hearing opposing views.

The law, which was referred to the House by the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) after an amendment, stipulated that no passports would be issued or renewed for Jordanian nationals living abroad before the approval of authorities specified by the Minister of Interior. Deputies who opposed the law told the *JORDAN TIMES* that the "authorities" would be the General Intelligence Department.

After discussing a number of issues during the open part of the session, House Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz announced the beginning of the closed session and asked journalists and people attending to leave the auditorium.

Journalists who stayed during most of the closed session in the House's library heard a sudden commotion coming from the auditorium and saw the entrance door opening and attempts by deputies to convince a number of colleagues not to walk out of the session, which was overcome by chaos the House never witnessed before.

Asked what was happening and what sparked the uproar, deputies said that after hearing the opinions of some deputies in favour of implementing the passport law, "the House speaker suggested closing the discussion for voting." The suggestion was endorsed.

The opposing deputies said that the House speaker, by taking that step, "aims at depriving us of the chance of expressing our opinions."

The attempts of deputies to convince a number of their colleagues to return to the House seemed to have succeeded when the withdrawing deputies returned to their seats. However, it was only minutes later that Mr al-Fayiz suggested again the closing of the discussion which was approved by the majority of deputies.

At this stage, deputies Yusif al-'Azem, Fawzi Tu'aymah, Riyad al-Nawayisah, 'Ati Abu al-'Izz 'Abdallah al-'Akayilah, Ahmad al-Kufahi, and Layth Shubaylat walked out of the session while the voting was under way.

The withdrawing deputies said they intended to submit a protest to Mr al-Fayiz against "the violation of international parliamentary laws and the House internal regulations."

Reaction to 'Threats' by Israeli Chief of Staff

JN241051 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Jan 85 p 24

["Everyday" column by Tariq Masarwah: "A Threat"]

[Excerpt] The military chief of staff's threats to Jordan may not be a topic worthy of any official Jordanian reaction. However, we believe that these threats are material for the press.

While in Nabulus, the Israeli chief of staff considered the Jordanian trend encouragement for terrorists in Judaea and Samaria and believes that this trend constitutes a threat to Israel's security and that Israel cannot tolerate such a threat.

Although this statement is ridiculous, because Jordan is not responsible for maintaining the occupation's security, and because the escalation of the Palestinian resistance is a natural matter which justifies the PLO's existence, we believe that the Israeli threats do not stem from a vacuum.

The current Arab situation constitutes a real opportunity to make Zionist leaders feel they can practice hegemony on the region and direct such warnings to Jordan, Syria, or Lebanon. The Zionist leaders will not hesitate to do so, so long as they are capable of isolating any Arab country from the rest of the Arab body which does not feel the pain of this separation.

The chief of staff can always remind us that his artillery can now shell Damascus from the Al-Baruk mountain, that even if he announced his withdrawal from Sidon, the Israeli patrols will continue with their mission after the withdrawal, and that Jordan should not come closer to the PLO's terrorists, or else...

We understand the significance of the threat launched by the Israeli chief of staff from Nabulus. We also understand that the threat is directed to the people there more than it is directed to Amman. But, we also understand that arranging the situation in Lebanon will move the Israeli pressures to Jordan. The Jordanians should arrange their situation on this basis. Jordan's only international ally is its Arab nation, which has turned into a indolent body.

Further on 14th Round of Al-Naqurah Talks

Official Statements Issued

NC241534 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Correspondent's dispatch from Al-Naqurah — recorded]

[Excerpts] As for today's round of talks in Al-Naqurah, we can report that Brigadier General al-Hajj emphasized shortly before the start of the session that the Lebanese Army is prepared to take over the Sidon area and any other region evacuated by the Israeli Army. Al-Hajj said: We will not coordinate a phased withdrawal, as that would be tantamount to recognizing the fait accompli that occurs after each phase.

He added: Our response will be in line with the prime minister's recent statements, and we will ask the Israelis to provide us with a timetable for their withdrawal. Al-Hajj revealed that a rapid deployment force has been established to occupy any area evacuated by the Israelis.

Today's round of talks ended at 1445 without any agreement on a date for the next session. UN spokesman Timor Goksel issued the following statement: The Arab and Israeli military delegations held their 14th meeting under UN auspices in Al-Naqurah to discuss security arrangements and Israel's withdrawal from the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya. The two delegations maintained their previous positions and agreed to leave the date for the next meeting open.

A spokesman for the Lebanese delegation came out at 1450 and read the following statement: Despite the fact that 14 sessions have been held and that the Lebanese delegation, to promote the talks and expedite the withdrawal, presented its views on security arrangements, the Israeli delegation did not present a timetable for their withdrawal. It is upon such a timetable that the security arrangements are to be based. In the 13th session, the Israeli delegation presented its government's unilateral decision to redeploy the Israeli forces in Lebanon, and asked the Lebanese delegation to implement coordinating measures affecting a small, densely populated area in which the Israeli Army is being harassed and subjected to blows from the national resistance with ever-increasing losses.

The official Lebanese statement added: The fact that a redeployment, and not a withdrawal, is being discussed, means that the Israeli occupation will continue. This is contrary to the UN secretary general's call. The Lebanese delegation remains prepared to coordinate a withdrawal covering all of Lebanon, and to restore sovereignty to all Lebanese.

Pessimism Expressed on Resumption

NC241652 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The 14th round of Al-Naqurah negotiations has ended, with no date having been set for the next round. This has left the impression that basic differences continue to exist between the Lebanese and Israeli participants. However, some hope remains, in view of the efforts being made by the United Nations. Will Urquhart succeed, as he did previously, in bringing the two sides back to the negotiating table? Pending the UN efforts, we will review today's events in Al-Naqurah:

Lebanon asked for a clarification of redeployment, insisting on the need for a timetable on the withdrawal and on specification of the role to be assigned to the army of south Lebanon. Israel insisted that the first phase of the withdrawal must be coordinated, but rejected any scheduling of the second and third phases. Meanwhile, an official UNIFIL spokesman expressed pessimism about the resumption of the Al-Naqurah negotiations, as the two sides' viewpoints appeared to be poles apart. Let us listen to the latest dispatch from our correspondent in Al-Naqurah:

[Begin recording] An official UNIFIL spokesman has expressed pessimism on the resumption of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, because the two sides' viewpoints appeared to be poles apart. He said: If the two sides expect miracles from the international talks and contacts undertaken by the United Nations, they will be dissapointed, for the two sides are adamant in adhering to their stands and refuse to consider any compromise.

A Lebanese military source has stated: During today's round of talks, Lebanon expressed its readiness to continue the talks there and then, but the Israelis felt that that would be useless if the expressed stands remain as adamant as they have been. The Lebanese delegation then said that something may happen that would bring about a change in these stands, but Israel rejected this.

The military source held Israel responsible for what might happen in Sidon, adding: Something positive may emerge from the UN efforts, but Israel refused to set a new date for the negotiations.

The source continued: Israel is a democratic country. Who can guarantee that the second and third phases will be implemented later if they are not discussed now? The Israeli Government might change its mind and be satisfied with its withdrawal from Sidon alone. We seek Israel's withdrawal from Al-Nabatiyah, Marj 'Uyun, and Al-Baruk, so that Lebanon's sovereignty can be restored in those areas. [end recording]

Al-Hajj Briefs Karami

NC242107 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami met with Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj, head of the Lebanese military delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks, at his residence tonight. Al-Hajj briefed Karami on today's talks and the positions outlined during the meeting.

Prime Minister Karami had also met with Major General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces, who briefed the prime minister on the security situation in various areas.

Urquhart: Talks Not Deadlocked

NC251226 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart has indicated that the Al-Naqurah talks have not reached a deadlock. He was answering newsmen's questions following a 45-minute round of talks at noon today with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk. He said: I believe that both parties consider the Al-Naqurah working paper to be useful. Naturally, it is not necessary to meet when there are new points for discussion. [sentence as heard] Despite this, I do not believe that work at Al-Naqurah has reached an end. I still believe that the Al-Naqurah talks are an approach that can always be resorted to when necessary.

Asked if he believes the UNIFIL has a role to play in the initial stage of the Israeli withdrawal, Urquhart said that this decision is up to the Lebanese Government, and that this is one of the points we discussed today with colleagues here in the Foreign Ministry. I repeat that the final decision is up to the Lebanese Government.

Asked if there is a role for the United Nations to play in bringing the Israeli and Lebanese views closer, Urquhart said: This question is at the core of the task for which I am here in Lebanon. All of us know that there are a great deal of differences in the views of Lebanon and Israel. If we find any way for bringing the views closer, we will spare no efforts if this can be useful.

He added that he will go to Al-Naqurah tomorrow, and from there to Israel and to New York. Urquhart arrived at the Foreign Ministry at 1215 today accompanied by his aide Jean-Claude Aime, and held a meeting with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk in the presence of Director of Political Affairs Dr Khalil Makkawi and Director of International Organizations Affairs Ambassador Ghazi Shidyaq. During the meeting, they reviewed the final round of Al-Naqurah talks yesterday.

Israeli Convoy Withdraws From Tallat Mar Ilyas

NC241750 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] At 1330 today, an Israeli convoy in the south was seen withdrawing from Tallat Mar Ilyas. The convoy consisted of 20 trucks carrying prefabricated houses and was escorted by tanks. The convoy proceeded toward Al-Zahrani.

Lahd To Transfer Evacuated Areas to Lebanese Army

NC242218 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 24 Jan 85.

[Text] Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon, said that his army will hand over some areas evacuated by the Israelis to the Lebanese Army. However, he added, if the Lebanese Army fails to impose order in these areas, he will reconsider this decision.

Lahd also revealed that the army of southern Lebanon intends to establish posts in Bisri, on the Al-Awwali River.

Al-Jumayyil Asks Fahd To Intercede With Syria

JN241654 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The Paris-based magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* has quoted diplomatic sources as saying that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil sent a message to His Majesty King Fahd of Saudi Arbia, calling on the Saudi monarch to convince Syrian officials of the need to withdraw the Syrian forces from Lebanese territory. In its issue to be published tomorrow, the magazine said that the message contains clear-cut proposals pertaining to Syria's security and to the possibility of the Syrian forces' presence in the Hirmil Heights of Al-Biqa' and some strategic mountain areas.

Birri Holds Talks in Damascus, Returns Home

NC241919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs and minister of justice and hydroelectric resources, returned to Beirut from Damascus this afternoon after holding talks and meetings with senior officials, including Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works and tourism, also took part in the meetings. They were joined by these leaders from the National Democratic Front: 'Asim Qansu, George Hawi, 'Isam Al-Mahayri, and In'am Ra'd.

The meetings were also attended by Mahmud Abu Hamdan, representing the Amal movement.

Another meeting, attended by Rafiq al-Hariri, was held between Khaddam and Birri. Their talks dealt with the Lebanese security situation, touching on Beirut, the coastal highway plan, and conditions in the south. They agreed to guarantee the capital's security as a basis for all other security plans, as Beirut is the source of authority and law. The participants expressed satisfaction with the measures that have been adopted thus far.

It was learned that Minister Junblatt's position was most positive toward the question of promoting the security plan in Beirut, the coastal area, and in the south.

Their talks also centered on the need to unify and consolidate the national and Islamic ranks without sectarian blemish.

On Sidon and the south, the conferees stressed the unity of the Lebanese position, and the need for the Army, and no one else, to fill any vacuum. In accordance with this, all forces and parties have pledged to bring a stop to gunmen, and to any other armed presence in the streets. They have also been asked to support the Army in filling the vacuum.

On the coastal highway plan, the conferees emphasized that the agreed-upon plan must be implented to ensure the Lebanese

Army's deployment in the south following any future withdrawal, scheduled or unexpected.

The conferees in Damascus noted that Israel will withdraw from an area of some 350 square kilometers some 6-12 kilometers deep. This is less than one tenth of the occupied territory, and approximately half the population in the south lives in the area that will remain under Israeli control. This confirms that the withdrawal plan is actually an Israeli security arrangement designed to minimize the losses the national resistance fighters inflict on the occupation forces.

The Israeli plan reflects no intention of conducting a complete withdrawal. This is particularly true given the stated intention of the Israeli Cabinet's decision to hand over part of southern Lebanon to the Lahd forces under Israeli supervision.

The conferees also evaluated Lebanon's position in the Al-Naqurah talks. Their views were identical on terming the Israeli withdrawal plan a redeployment of forces plan, and they noted that the withdrawal was a result of continuous pressure from the national resistance.

Upon arriving in Beirut, Minister Birri praised Syria's role and its support for the unity of Lebanon, its people, and for the restoration of their territory.

Junblatt on Relations With Syria, Christians

NC242024 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has stressed that, unless those Lebanese forces now present in Iqlim al-Kharrub and some parts of Sidon do not withdraw, the situation will become very dangerous and could expose the area's security situation to the risk of a great catastrophe. Walid Junblatt made this remark in a long interview to be published tomorrow by the newspaper *AMAL*. Junblatt declared that the coastal road exists for all nationalists, and that no nationalist could possibly accept the presence of political or military barriers there, in Iqlim al-Kharrub, or in Sidon and the surrounding areas. The purpose of such barriers, he noted, is to harass our people and the Lebanese national resistance.

Replying to a question, Junblatt denied the existence of any dispute between the PSP and the Amal movement on any subject. He said that the Phalangists and the official information media spread such rumors. Junblatt noted that efforts are being made to promote the alliance between the Amal movement and the PSP.

Junblatt also emphasized that the Islamic meeting held at the office of Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of the republic, should be expanded and developed to embrace all Islamic functionaries. These meetings, he said, should take on a political character, and should give rise to a joint military and security operations room that would oversee the situation in Beirut.

Junblatt repeated the need to abolish political sectarianism, saying that equal representation for Muslims and Christians in the Chamber of Deputies was unimportant as long as the Christian Maronites remained the actual makers of political decisions. He added that the slogan "liberation before reform," being raised by the president of the republic, is meant only for local consumption. He revealed that Israel has agents on the coast and among Lebanese communities in all areas. He said that coordination among the nationalist forces is the answer to Israel's penetration of the mountain and other regions.

Replying to another question, Walid Junblatt denied the existence of any differences between himself and Syria. He emphasized that Syria has interests which could sometimes be more comprehensive and greater than those of the Lebanese. He said: Our brothers in Syria understand our problems quite well, and what binds us to Syria is a fateful, strategic bond.

He stated that Israel's withdrawal from the South is a result of blows from the national resistance, and not a product of Amin al-Jumayyil's support.

As for the issue of kidnapped and detained persons, Junblatt declared that the responsibility lies with the Phalangists, the government, and the regime. He views the formation of committees to deal with this problem as a waste of time and a mockery of the people.

Junblatt held the group around Amin al-Jumayyil responsible for stealing money from the people and from the needy. It is that group, not us, he said, which owns the banks.

Answering another question, Junblatt said: I am optimistic in the long run, since the Maronite policy is down to its last bullet.

USSR Envoy Asked About Weapons for Junblatt

NC241815 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY has quoted official diplomatic sources as saying that they discussed the direct shipment of Soviet arms and ammunition to Minister Walid Junblatt with Aleksandr Soldatov, Soviet ambassador to Beirut. They added that the last chapter of the issue has yet to be written.

The sources protested the Soviet supply of military aid directly to an armed organization at a time when the government is leading efforts within Lebanon, and Syria is leading efforts in the region, to calm the situation in Lebanon and to restore its national sovereignty, especially to those areas to be evacuated by Israel.

The agency said that Aleksandr Soldatov limited himself to saying that his country is honoring its commitment to provide them with political and moral support, as well as aid. However, he did not give any explanation for supplying military aid.

It is worth noting that about a month ago, the Socialist Party received three shipments of arms, vehicles, artillery pieces, rockets, tanks, and troop carriers.

Various Parties Set Up Barricades in West Beirut

NC250728 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] The situation in Beirut is calm so far. The security organs, in cooperation with the Quadripartite Security Committee, are attempting to implement the decisions made by the recent Cabinet meeting. All the parties have pledged to collaborate in implementing the security plan in Beirut as confirmed by the committee at yesterday's meeting.

However, despite the willingness uttered by some parties, the Voice of Lebanon correspondent has reported that concentrations of gunmen appeared in West Beirut during the night. The Kurds have set up a barricade in the Waid Abu Jamil quarter, and have deployed themselves up to the end of the Holiday Inn street; the Al-Murabitun have set up a barricade in the lower Abu Shakir quarter, in this quarter's main square, in the Spinney's quarter, and have instituted foot patrols up to the end of the Arab University area; the Socialists have reinforced their members in the Wata Al-Musaytibah quarter, set up emplacements in front of Minister Walid Junblatt's house, set up a barricade in front of the Yazbik coffee shop, and another in the Mar Ilyas area; a third barricade for the Socialists was noted in Wata al-Musaytibah; the Syrian Social Nationalist Party have reinforced their members in front of its offices in the areas of Al-Hamra', the Bristol Hotel and on other streets.

Our correspondent has also noticed that the Amal movement has reinforced its forces in the streets, has set up a barricade in front of the Saliba coffee shop, and has blocked Al-Barbur Street where Minister Nabih Birri's residence is. The same movement also set up a barricade in Al-Barbir and another in Zqaq al-Blat.

Meanwhile Junblatt's followers have withdrawn to the mountain 400 of their forces from Beirut, together with their light vehicles, personnel carriers, antiaircraft guns, and rocket launchers. A military convoy comprising 40 vehicles was seen heading for 'Alayh, Al-Shuf last night.

Israeli Governor of Al-Nabatiyah Reportedly Killed

NC241658 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] News Agencies have carried urgent reports from southern Lebanon indicating that two senior officers and one high-ranking Israeli officer known as Abu Yusuf, who serves as Israel's military governor for Al-Nabatiyah District, have been killed.

The report adds that the two other officers are Abu Goerge, responsible for military intelligence in Lahd's militia, and another Israeli officer.

The three were killed in an ambush laid by Lebanese resistance fighters near the town of Al-Nabatiyah this morning. The resistance fighters set off an explosive device while an Israeli convoy was passing near the village of Habbush.

Al-Asad Recieves Iran's Mohsen Rafiqdust

JN241835 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps in the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 1245 today. Comrade Ahmad Diyab, head of the National Security Office, and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Talks dealt with the region's developments and issues of joint interest.

Gambian President, Delegation Depart Damascus

JN241148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Damascus — Gambian President Dawda Kairaba Jawara and his delegation left Damascus at 1000 today. During his visit the Gambian president held two rounds of talks with President Hafiz al-Asad on the situation and developments in the Middle East in general, and the situation between Iran and Iraq in particular. President al-Asad led those who saw the Gambian president off at Damascus International Airport.

AL-THAWRAH, AL-BA'TH Criticize Bush Statements

JN250923 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "U.S. Relations in the Stage of Teeth and Claws" *AL-THAWRAH* says: When U.S. Vice President George Bush announces that the Reagan administration intends to adopt historic measures to entrench strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and that it will equip this cooperation with teeth and claws to reassert the link between the two sides, this means that U.S.-Israeli relations will witness, from now on, a serious development on the strategic level that will threaten security and stability throughout the Middle East. The historic measures George Bush mentioned might mean that Washington and Tel Aviv will carry out aggressive adventures in the region. This also means an attempt to besiege and place the region under imperialist-Zionist hegemony. It is evident that these imperialist dreams are being cherished by Pentagon generals and the Zionist military establishment, because the United States seems to be very enthusiastic about the establishment of greater Israel.

AL-THAWRAH adds: With its serious decision to promote its strategic alliance with Israel, the United States wants to introduce the region into a new labyrinth of instability so that it can secure the appropriate circumstances for the Zionist enemy to carry out new expansion. All this makes the pan-Arab liberation movement, and its national and pan-Arab forces, dutybound to carry out a general mobilization, to confront this imminent U.S.-Israeli provocation by speeding up the attainment of strategic balance in region and by exploiting the huge Arab capabilities and potentials to serve the battle of steadfastness, liberation, and progress.

Commenting on same subject, *AL-BA'TH* says: In spite of all the U.S. assistance Israel has obtained, the second man in the White House believes that the implementation of the strategic cooperation agreement has not started yet. In accordance with the dictates of joint U.S.-Israeli interests, the implementation of this agreement means practical measures on Arab land, such as what took place in Grenada, or what is taking place in Central America.

Faced with this U.S. scorn for the Arab personality, all the Arab friends of the United States are condemned on the pan-Arab level. The Arab homeland is in dire need of freeing itself from U.S. friendship and that of the United States' friends. It thus becomes clear that the pan-Arab struggle to create a solid and cohesive edifice is between the masses and those who have sold themselves to the White House and its policy that stifles Arab rights and existence.

PLO Participation in Cairo Book Fair Criticized

JN242020 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat's treasonous clique added further conclusive evidence of its treason and abandonment of the national line when it permitted itself to participate, side by side, with the Zionist entity in the 17th international book fair which opened in Cairo two days ago. The book fair includes a PLO section and another Zionist section. News agencies said that Yasir 'Arafat's brother, Jamal 'Arafat, led a demonstration that Egyptians and Palestinians staged at the opening of the fair in support of 'Arafat's clique.

Reliable sources in Cairo had earlier denied that 'Arafat's clique had participated in another book fair held at the Egyptian Lawyers Union under the patronage of the Egyptian opposition parties, which rejected Israel's presence in the international book fair. The sources said 'Arafat's clique did not reserve a section in this concurrent book fair, but was satisfied to send its representatives to attend it. It is noteworthy that the concurrent fair was held to exhibit the books published by the Arab and Egyptian publishing houses which refused to participate in the international fair because of the Israeli presence. This fair was boycotted by all Arab countries except Sudan, Oman, and 'Arafat's clique.

Further on IDF Withdrawal, Al-Naqurah Talks

Messages Relayed Through Mubarak

TA241050 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi and Yehoshu'a Halamish]

[Text] A few days ago, Lebanese President Amin Al-Jumayyil relayed a message to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres through Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. In the message, Al-Jumayyil asks Israel "not to rush to pull its forces out of Lebanon," but to initially look into the possibility of coordinating matters with the Lebanese Government.

Peres took advantage of the Egyptian president's good offices to reply to Al-Jumayyil. "Israel is determined to carry out the first stage of the evacuation of its troops by 18 February," Peres wrote, and emphasized that Israel is prepared to hand control of the evacuated areas over to UNIFIL and the Lebanese Army.

It should be noted that Amin al-Jumayyil has approached Mubarak on two occasions and asked him to intervene in the question of the IDF pullout and in determining the appropriate arrangements for the evacuated areas.

Talks Suspended, Syria Blamed

TA241608 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] No progress was made at the end of the 14th round of Al-Naqurah talks, and no date has been set for another meeting. Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation, believes that the Syrians, of course, are behind the Lebanese disregard for Israel's proposal for a smooth transfer of the area that will be evacuated by the IDF. Our military correspondent Gay Zohar reports from Al-Naqurah:

[Begin recording] [Zohar] The Israeli, Lebanese, and UN delegations have come to the French briefing room in Al-Naqurah 14 times. Evidently, it was not only the way the room was laid out and the refreshments that have remained the same; in fact, one can already sum up and say today that nothing was achieved here. Israel came today to hear the Lebanese describe how they see the transfer of the Sidon area once the IDF withdraws.

The head of the Israeli delegation, Brig Gen 'Amos Gilbo'a, repeated his statement four times that Lebanon was responsible for the area the moment the IDF leaves. But apparently this did not strike home with the Lebanese, and the head of their delegation repeated the old worn-out positions, requesting a detailed timetable for every phase of the withdrawal, and even reiterating Al-Jumayyil's 6 January speech — a speech made long before the Cabinet's decision on the withdrawal. It appears that the Beirut delegation is simply ignoring the changes that have meanwhile occurred in Israel, and Israel's sincere intention to withdraw. The Israeli delegation was dumbfounded, and no date for a further meeting was set at the end of today's session. Brig Gen Gilbo'a still did not commit himself to saying that this is the end of the Al-Naqurah affair, but he is certainly not pleased:

[Gilbo'a] From our standpoint, there is absolutely no problem. The entire problem is a Lebanese problem. If they want to coordinate things with us, fine; if they do not, let them not coordinate. The problem will remain theirs, and the entire responsibility will rest with them.

[Zohar] So what is the reason why the Lebanese have not brought answers or truly tried to coordinate the transfer of the area, we asked Gilbo'a.

[Gilbo'a] I presume the Syrians are behind this position, and are not allowing the Lebanese to coordinate the evacuation with us. This is one aspect. Besides this, it is clear that if this is the situation and my assessment is correct, this means that in fact the Lebanese submission to the Syrians is almost absolute, and preferable — in their belief — to the integrity and well-being of their very own population.

[Zohar] In other words, whether the Al-Naqurah talks have reached their end or not is still unclear. UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar will soon arrive in the region, and he too will undoubtedly try to mediate between the parties. Either way, if nothing is decided upon in Beirut, it will have to face developments similar to the ones we have already witnessed in Al-Shuf — without prior preparation. [end recording]

Chances for Agreement Poor

TA250722 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Following the freeze in the Al-Naqurah talks, senior sources this morning assess that there are poor chances for the achievement of an agreement on the transfer of the area to be evacuated by the IDF in the initial stage to the Lebanese Army and to UNIFIL. However, these elements told our military correspondent Gay Zohar that there have always been surprises with regard to relations in the area, and we may also be taken by surprise here.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will meet with UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart this morning in another attempt to coordinate matters between Jerusalem and Beirut. At this stage, our correspondent reports, it does not seem likely that the Syrians will enable the Lebanese to allow Israel any achievement in Lebanon. Urquhart will be told in Tel Aviv today that time is running out and that action had better be taken.

Urquhart To Continue Activity

TA250807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] UN envoy Brian Urquhart this morning talked with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Following the meeting he told correspondents he will continue to act for an orderly transfer of the IDF-evacuated areas in Lebanon to the hands of the UN force or the Lebanese Army. Nevertheless, he still could not tell whether the Al-Naqurah talks will resume or not. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that Urquhart is leaving for Beirut now.

ASL To Limit Occupation

TA241914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], General Antoine Lahd, today toured the areas to be evacuated by the IDF and said that his army will not try to occupy the entire area to be evacuated. He told correspondents that the ASL will leave some areas to the Lebanese Army, and if this Army does not succeed in taking them over, the matter will be reexamined. Visiting IDF positions in Bisri, Gen Lahd said that the ASL intends to set up positions on that spot.

IDF Leaves Road Intact

TA250526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] The IDF has decided not to destroy the roads paved in the western sector in Lebanon. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports it has been decided to leave the roads intact, because destroying them would be expensive and might turn the residents against the IDF. Our correspondent adds that the evacuation of the western sector is progressing rapidly — in some places faster than planned. Senior officers anticipate increased terrorist activity against the IDF during the evacuation and after it. They have called on the soldiers not to be gripped by complacency and to heighten their alertness.

UN representative Brian Urquhart will arrive in Beirut today and will try to renew the Al-Naqurah talks.

IDF Kills Six Terrorists in Southern Lebanon

TA241803 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1754 GMT 24 Jan 85

["IDF Spokesman Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] Last night after midnight, six terrorists were killed in an encounter with an IDF force 5 km northeast of Jazzin. Our forces sustained no casualties. After midnight the force encountered the terrorist squad which had penetrated from north of the Al-Awwali River. Fire was directed at the squad. During searches afterwards, six dead terrorists were found. Six Kalashnikov's were found in their possession, as well as ammunition, six RPG's, bombs, guns, and maps. As noted, our forces sustained no casualties.

Coverage, Commentary on Second Package Deal

Agreement Signed 24 January

TA242115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The second package deal agreement was signed in Tel Aviv about an hour ago. The parties agreed that subsidies for fuel, water, and electricity will either be abolished altogether, or reduced so that the price of electricity for private consumption will go up by 25 percent, and the price of electricity for industry will increase by 54 percent. Public transportation fees will go up by 55 percent. In the next 2 months, subsidies for basic commodities will be reduced, but the government pledged not to allow an increase of more than 13 percent, in real terms, in the rise of prices of subsidized food and water. After the subsidies are reduced, the new level of subsidies will remain static. The prices of goods and services will be frozen, and their prices will be fixed in a law that will keep them at the level they were at on the eve of the agreement. Permission will nonetheless be granted to raise their prices by a maximum of 3 to 5 percent. A consumer price index of up to 6 percent, resulting from the cut in subsidies, will not be computed in the cost-of-living increment.

Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said that the new deal combines a gradual adjustment of prices with the regulation of the capital market and a budget cut. He said that a difficult period is about to come, but at the end of that period it will be possible to embark on the right course. He added that he can feel that this will be a historic night, marking a change in Israel's economy. Minister Moda'i praised Shim'on Peres for his central contribution to the signing of the deal.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar also expressed satisfaction, but added that the Histadrut signed the deal out of fear for the fate of the workers and the economy, and concern for rising unemployment. He emphasized that the Histadrut will demand that the government provide a job for all those who demand one.

Eli Hurvitz, the representative of the industrialists, said that the package deal that was signed is complicated and complex, but is still a good deal because it involves the foundations for an economic policy.

'Lion's Share' of Economic Plan

TA250633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by economic affairs correspondent Moshe Nestlebaum, following the signing of the agreement on the second package deal in Tel Aviv on 24 January — recorded]

[Text] [Nestlebaum] What is special about the signed agreement, aside from the fact that it does not include a general price freeze on the economy?

[Peres] The agreement does include a general economic price freeze, with a very moderate price increase which is called for by changes in the rate of exchange. First, the agreement has been signed for a long term. Second, it deals with the macro-economic aspects, in the true meaning of this term.

This is an inflation-restraining agreement which guarantees stability and recovery; it also contains the elements necessary to renew investments in Israel. The agreement is made up of a joint, balanced, and well-measured contribution by all three parties to the deal.

[Nestlebaum] Mr Prime Minister, can a package deal replace a comprehensive government economic plan?

[Peres] No, the package deal — what you call a package deal — is, in fact, the lion's share of the economic plan. It has all the components of an economic plan for almost a year.

[Nestlebaum] We see that subsidization of the economy has in fact been reduced in this deal. Is this the government trend — to further reduce subsidization of the economy in the near future?

[Peres] Yes, definitely. It is otherwise impossible to reduce public spending — namely, the state's budget. This also creates artificial demands, a lack of appreciation of basic commodities, and irrational consumption which does not reflect the true needs of people. The reduction in subsidies clearly has a part in economic recovery.

[Nestlebaum] Mr Prime Minister, we see that a package deal has been achieved, but the rate of unemployment is growing. Have you paid attention to this matter as well?

[Peres] Certainly. We have established an economic-social council which set up a subcommittee on the unemployment issue. An inter-office committee has been set up at the recommendation of this subcommittee, and this has already begun to thaw funds for the establishment of new plants, especially in areas with worrisome unemployment pockets. We will also intensify our activity in this sphere in the future.

Americans Appreciate Package Deal

TA250707 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by economic affairs correspondent Moshe Gal, following the signing of the second package deal agreement in Tel Aviv on 24 January — recorded]

[Text] [Gal] Mr Prime Minister, is the second economic package deal indeed a replacement for a comprehensive economic policy?

[Peres] No, the package deal — what you call the package deal — is in fact the lion's share of the economic plan. It has all the components of an economic plan, almost covering a 1 year period.

[Gal] Mr Peres, it has been claimed that the time-out granted by the present package deal was not properly used by the government for the consolidation of a full comprehensive economic policy. How will the new time-out provided by the new package deal be used?

[Peres] Let me first say that it is about time that those who make various claims would examine them. I remember the claims regarding the first package deal. It was said that control and supervision was impossible, that stabilization of prices was impossible, and that there was latent inflation. You, yourself, can remember all the claims made before the first package deal was implemented. We launched it with an inflation of 24 percent and ended today with an inflation of 3 percent — even less, according to my impression. I think we used that time-out properly, established calm and trust, and changed Israel's image. We will now continue to do this in a more intense and extensive manner.

[Gal] Will the size of the cut in subsidies decided upon in the present deal help in the deliberations on the special economic aid requested from the United States?

[Peres] Yes. I believe that there is hardly a country which reached such a scope of reductions of its own will and with full agreement. I spoke to [officials in] the United States a few times today. I must say that the people with whom I talked were almost amazed by this achievement.

[Gal] Will you now personally approach the Americans and again submit the aid request which totals $800 million?

[Peres] I do not think I need personally do so. We are maintaining routine contacts with the United States, and I have no doubt that the Americans themselves were surprised by the achievements of the first package deal. I have grown to believe that they will be greatly appreciative of the additional move we made.

Cut To Accompany Agreement

TA250631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Statement by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i following the signing of the second package deal agreement in Tel Aviv on 24 January — recorded]

[Text] The agreement we signed this evening undoubtedly will restrain the basic negative processes in the economy. It marks the beginning of the closing of the gap in the government's budget, and will complement it by cutting the government's budget. I should say that at the beginning of our discussion it was difficult to predict what we would achieve. There is no doubt that all parties to this package deal made big and important contributions; the agreement could not have been achieved unless they recognized the dangers involved and the importance of shared responsibility.

Defense Budget Cut Nearing

TA241532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] An agreement on the cut of the defense budget is coming closer. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal has learned that at a meeting held today between the prime minister and the defense minister a compromise has been reached, according to which $700 million will be cut from the defense budget.

The defense budget now stands at $2.6 billion, and the defense establishment will receive all expenses incurred in the stay in Lebanon and the evacuation operation. It is expected that the understanding will be finally concluded prior to the defense minister's visit to the United States.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT, MA'ARIV View Agreement

TA241033 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* says the new package deal is a compromise between the economy's needs and political reality. Instead of real cuts in the budget, it is the subsidies which are being cut. Inherent in the new deal is the danger that behind its smokescreen, prices will rise uncontrollably. This being the case, the government is assuming a tremendous responsibility because in this deal — as in the previous one — the public has no say in the control of prices.

MA'ARIV claims that the deal agreed upon last night will be regarded as a great success for the prime minister and the finance minister. The newspaper believes that the government, the Histadrut, and the manufacturers must show an interest in maintaining the atmosphere of restraint in consumption, and ensuring that prices are increased moderately, if at all. In an inflationary situation, the paper warns, there is always someone who wants to make a fast buck, but in the end everybody loses.

Morning Press on Agreement

TA250925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 25 Jan 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* says that the 8 months' duration of the second package deal should enable all parties to the deal to make it work, remove inconsistencies as they become apparent, and tie up loose ends as they threaten to unravel the package. The two key factors in the process are the exchange rate and the level of real wages. If the government and the Histadrut keep that firmly in mind, the economy may achieve stability — and stability itself will go a long way toward reducing the government's deficit, toward an increase in savings, toward a rise in productivity, and perhaps the first halting steps toward a renewal of growth.

HA'ARETZ writes that the first economic package deal was designed to cool the inflationary fever by doing well by the people, while the second package deal, if it is implemented along the lines we have learned of so far, is intended to set in motion the painful process of economic recovery. This is indicated by the massive reduction in the government's subsidies bill. If the ministers actually spend more or less what has been estimated, in about 6 months the state budget will be lighter by about $1 billion and the economy will move forward with single-digit inflation, which will be a satisfactory start for the recovery process. The prime minister, who played a major role in preparing and completing the package deal, has proven that rather difficult decisionmaking is possible even under the unpromising conditions of a coalition which enjoys a majority but no unity.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the Histadrut's contribution to the second package deal was its agreement to a further erosion of real wages and an alternative to the cost of living increment tool. This contribution is weighty, especially on the eve of Histadrut elections. The government should take pains to prove to the salaried workers sector that this was not a futile sacrifice, that the workers were not led astray, and that there be no failure due to lack of planning or forethought. Thus, the level of risks undertaken by the Labor Party in the framework of the second package deal is very high. It is actually a gamble rather than a calculation. Only by giving up some of the planned price increases, and returning to the trustworthy simplicity which characterized the first package deal, will the government be able to recreate the situation in which all parties to the deal see in it more advantages than disadvantages, and are therefore prepared to fully cooperate to obtain complete success.

HATZOFE writes that a package deal which is composed mainly of moderate price increases and salary erosion will preserve the atmosphere of calm which has prevailed in the economy since the beginning of the first package deal. However, the economic leaders will have to find appropriate ways to maintain a fair distribution of the economic burden, to prevent a situation whereby prices will increase above the agreed level and the salaries of the wage earners will continue to be eroded. Now is the time to conclude the deliberations on real budget cuts. Such cuts are necessary to put the economy well on the road toward recovery; without such cuts, all plans will be doomed to failure.

HAMODI'A writes that the $1 billion savings which, according to the Finance Ministry, will result from the cancellation of the subsidies, is undoubtedly a considerable sum which will help the state budget. On the other hand, we are faced with the fact that all mention of a cut in government spending has so far remained on paper. The public asks whether it is only they who should tighten their belts. The chances of reducing the size of the government and public apparatus are quite doubtful, when everyone knows there is no justification for maintaining such an overblown apparatus and for spending such large sums on something which the public can do without.

MA'ARIV Sees Change in Reagan's Middle East Policy

TA241306 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Jan 85 p 10

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Reagan Changing Course in the Middle East"]

[Excerpts] The decision of the two superpowers to include discussion of Middle East issues in their upcoming meetings compels Israel to broach the matter more seriously than it has done so far. When it was first reported that George Shultz and Andrey Gromyko decided to discuss matters pertaining to the Middle East, Israel reacted with an amazing measure of complacency. Even after they received a report about the Geneva talks, Israeli officials in Jerusalem cautioned that "Gromyko and Shultz had not discussed the Israeli-Arab conflict, but had decided to deal with it in the future." When, following pressure by journalists, the U.S. State Department was forced to admit that the two superpowers would definitely discuss the matter soon, Israel hastened to calm itself: "The United States and Israel continue to oppose the notion of holding an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union on a solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict...."

This fundamental position was formulated many years ago and may still be the cornerstone of U.S. policy in the Middle East. However, this position was formulated when the Soviet Union was not in a particularly brilliant position — despite the freeze in the autonomy talks, Egypt kept constantly strengthening relations with the United States; in the wake of the war with Iran, there was a significant rapprochement in the U.S.-Iraqi relations; at the peak of the Lebanese war, the PLO's military arm was shattered and its political position weakened. At the same time, Syria found itself isolated in the Arab world, and its ability to force a new war on Israel, either on its own or with the participation of troops from "the eastern front," looked rather limited.

However, such is not the case now. The Israeli-U.S. defeat in Lebanon somewhat changed the balance of power in the Middle East and between several countries in the region and the two superpowers. Although it persists in declaring its adherence to a "peace strategy," Egypt also openly states that "the Camp David process has exhausted itself"; this is the reason why it favors an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union and the PLO to solve the Middle East crisis.

Jordan has also embraced this approach and has tried to muster the support of French President Francois Mitterrand. Other pro-Western countries such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which in the past did not support the Camp David accords, now tend to favor the inclusion of the Soviet Union in the peace process in our region. Moreover, Moscow's position in our region regained its strength over the last year as a direct consequence of the strengthening of Damascus' position in Lebanon, and at the expense of the United States and Israel. Egypt resumed its diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union while Jordan and Kuwait are signing small arms deals with it.

During his first term, President Reagan favored the course of collision with the Soviet Union over the path of negotiations. However, President Reagan began his second term with a dialogue with Moscow and by expressing his readiness to link progress on the question of disarmament with talks on the future of the Middle East.

The progress of the talks in Geneva certainly did not indicate that a deal had been struck regarding a Soviet concession on strategic armament in exchange for a U.S. concession on the Middle East. However, the very fact that the United States is prepared to discuss ways to settle the Israeli-Arab dispute with the Soviet Union represents a change in the Reagan administration's traditional anti-Soviet stance.

In light of this change, Israel would be well advised to keep fully alert and ready for it in advance.

Yitzhaq Rabin To Visit Washington 27 January

TA250729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will visit Washington on 27 January to meet with administration leaders. Rabin will be discussing Israel's request for increased military aid.

Egypt To Reject Joint Administration of Tabah

TA241124 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Yosi Melman and Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] Egypt will categorically reject any Israeli proposal to jointly administer the Tabah area or to launch joint projects in it, as long as the question of sovereignty over Tabah has not been settled, Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni yesterday told the *DAVAR* correspondent.

Meanwhile, deep differences have emerged between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir over the position to be presented by the Israeli delegation to the talks on Tabah, scheduled to open in Beersheba in 3 days.

According to Basyuni, the parties to the Beersheba talks will not discuss a solution to the Tabah question because such a solution can only be reached through an arbiter whose decisions would be binding on both the Israeli and Egyptian Governments. Basyuni said that Egypt will not give up its demand for Egyptian sovereignty over Tabah.

As for the Israeli position to be presented in the talks, it has been learned from the Prime Minister's Office that the government wants the delegation to present a more moderate proposal than the one formulated by Yitzhaq Shamir. This proposal deals with the authority of the MFO unit scheduled to be stationed in Tabah. The Egyptians want to endow the MFO unit with broad authority, while Israel wants the Israel police to retain the policing authority. The Prime Minister's Office believes that a compromise could be reached between these two positions.

Display in Cairo Book Fair Remains Open

TA241750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Israel's stand at the Cairo Book Fair has not been closed, and will remain open just as the stands of other countries. Our correspondent on Arab affairs Aharon Barne'a reports that the representatives of foreign countries protested the intention to close their stands at the end of this week, and the fair's management agreed to extend the duration of the fair for everyone, including Israel.

Sources in Cairo and at the Israeli Embassy expressed their amazement over the publication of reports in Israel that Egypt has ordered the closure of the Israeli stand. They were also were amazed at the news that the Israel Foreign Ministry assesses that Egypt's hostility against Israel has increased following its participation.

Amana Seeks Settlement of Ethiopians in W. Bank

TA241145 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Jan 85 p 2

[Report from Jerusalem by Tova Tzimuqi]

[Text] Amana, the Gush Emunim settlement movement, has stepped up its efforts to have Ethiopian immigrants directed to

its settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that in the last 2 weeks, Gush Emunim leaders have been exerting pressure to this effect on Herut Cabinet members. The Jewish Agency's Settlement Department is taking part in these efforts. Upon learning about them, Immigrant Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur held a meeting with Likud ministers on this issue which may lead to a confrontation between the Jewish Agency and the government.

Shamir Says Settlement Enterprise Will Continue

TA241147 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by Avi Bettelheim]

[Text] "The settlement enterprise in Eretz Yisra'el has revolutionized the balance of power in the Middle East. Only frivolity and defeatism on the part of Israeli elements could put a halt to this historic enterprise," Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated yesterday in an address to the Herut Movement's academics circle at Bet Jabotinsky in Tel Aviv.

Shamir said that all of the 27 settlements decided upon by the Likud government would be established in the coming years. "There is dissatisfaction and criticism in our midst about everything pertaining to our partnership in the unity government. On the one hand we do not fully control the government, but on the other hand we are held fully responsible, and we must come to terms with this difficulty," Shamir added.

Jordanian Influence in Territories Growing

TA250737 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Jan 85 p 2

[News analysis by David Richardson]

[Text] The recent closure of the Rafah international border crossing point to Arab residents of the West Bank and Gaza District is seen by Israeli officials as evidence of an apparently aggressive policy being coordinated between Cairo and Amman.

Some 200 West Bankers and Gazans holding Jordanian passports who intended to travel to Egypt have been turned back by Egyptian border officals at Rafah over the past two weeks for unspecified "security reasons." Repeated requests from Israeli officials for an explanation have gone unanswered.

"It is clear that this is the result of a Jordanian request," said the Defence Ministry's coordinator of activities in the areas, Shmu'el Goren, earlier this week. "Jordan wishes to extend its influence and control in the area and, for the time being, this suits Egypt's interests as well."

Another offical said that Egypt's willingness to force West Bank and Gaza Arabs to travel only via Jordan was the result of the disappointment shared by King Husayn and President Mubarak over last November's inconclusive Palestine National Council meeting in Amman. Both leaders hoped that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat would use his reaffirmed control of the independent, or non-Syrian, majority in the organization and the clear backing of Palestinians in the Israeli-administered territories to give him a mandate to pursue a negotiated settlement with Israel.

"'Arafat's failure to do so has irritated the king, and the fact is that he has not been invited back to Amman since then," noted the official, pointing to 'Arafat's numerous trips to other parts of the Middle East.

The closure of the Rafah border to holders of Jordanian passports came soon after the surprise summit between Husayn and Mubarak at Aqaba last month.

Taking the lead on the Palestinian issue would suit Egypt's policy goal of re-entering the Arab world on its own terms, following the boycott that isolated Cairo after the 1978 Camp David accords. "It is an excellent mount on which to re-enter the Arab fold," said Goren.

The burly former Mosad executive was quick to stress that Israel, for its part, has been "scrupulous" in carrying out its promise to improve the quality of life in the territories. But now, he said, it is the Egyptians and the Jordanians who are making things difficult. "The fact is that the Palestinians would not dream of complaining about this to the Egyptians or to the Jordanians," he said.

Another result of the apparent decision to "make things difficult" has been a sharp decrease in the number of people now going to Jordan. As one official of the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration put it: "No one wants to meet Halim Haliwah (the Bayt Jala-born head of the West Bank desk in the Jordanian Mukhabarat or security service) as soon as he crosses the bridge unless he really has to."

Goren said that Israel had relaxed its control on the import of funds into the territories. In December alone, people crossing the Jordan River bridges into the West Bank are said to have brought in $20 million in cash. Nine local authorities have been permitted to bring in one million Jordanian Dinars (some $2.5m) [million] in the past few months. That sum includes an estimated $3m.-$4m. allocated by the Jordanian Government to West Bank Beduin — the first time in many years that these nomads have received any attention from the authorities in Amman.

The Defence Ministry has also cooperated with two representatives of the American Jewish-Arab "Business Group for Middle East Peace and Development" who last week completed a survey of health needs in the West Bank.

Proposals to establish juicemaking plants in Gaza and the West Bank, a pharmaceutical factory, and other minor projects have been approved. The much-talked of Arab Bank in Nabulus is expected to be launched by the end of the year. The bank has been approved in principle and now there remains to be worked out how the Bank of Israel will supervise financial activities that will revolve around Amman.

The Defence Ministry has turned down a request to establish a cement plant near Yattah, south of Hebron, because it thinks it will not be economically viable and will compete with both Israeli and Jordanian factories.

Increased Jordanian assertiveness in the territories poses a dilemma for Israel. On the one hand, the Israeli Administration, whether under the direction of Labour or Likud defence ministers, has generally tolerated and sometimes even encouraged such activity. This has been out of recognition of local Palestinian ties to Jordan and a way of keeping "the Jordanian option" in suspended animation. Arab investment funds, channelled to the West Bank via the Jordanian Ministry for the Occupied Territories also takes some of the pressure off an already severely strapped Military Government budget.

But Jordan is not always willing to play the game according to Israeli rules, and attaches a price to its often surprising quiescence. One such example was its demand that Israeli-appointed mayors in several towns be dismissed in return for the Jordanian green light to several prominent West Bankers who were willing to replace the deposed mayors of Nabulus, Al Birah, and Hebron. Israel refused and Israeli officers and officials are still running these towns.

Jerusalem Arabic on Plots Against PLO leaders
JN242000 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Jan 85

[From "With the Events" program]

[Text] The Cyprus-based magazine *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH* has recently said that Syrian intelligence sent a central figure in Ahmad Jibril's PFLP to Tunisia. When his luggage was searched, some documents were found that contained Syrian instructions for launching a campaign of physical liquidations. Middle East affairs correspondent Yitzhaq Halevi is with us in the studio.

[Reporter] Syrian intelligence is once again participating in a scandal concerning assassinations and physical liquidations. What has the *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH* magazine said?

[Halevi] *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH*, which expresses the 'Arafat organization's opinions and which is issued in Cyprus, said that documents containing Syrian instructions to launch a campaign of physical liquidations were found with a member of Ahmad Jibril's PFLP.

[Reporter] Did this person arrive in Tunisia?

[Halevi] Yes. According to the documents found, Damascus and Tripoli have pledged to provide the people who will carry out assassination operations with weapons, false passports, and entry visas to any country or city.

[Reporter] And, of course, all the facilities needed to carry out the mission.

[Halevi] Yes. *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH* added that Syria is planning to destroy the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by Nayif Hawatimah, if this front refuses to join the front of the organizations opposed to 'Arafat, a front that Syria is trying to establish under former PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum. The magazine also quoted Ahmad Jibril as saying that it will not take more than 2 hours to destroy Fatah with the help of Syria and the PFLP, and that the hesitation to destroy Nayif Hawatimah's front resulted in Yasir 'Arafat's success in convening the PNC in Amman. It also quoted Jibril as saying that if this hesitation continues, Nayif Hawatimah will attract George Habash to his side.

[Reporter] I have some news from Cairo that Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] made a statement to the *AL-JUMHURIYAH* newspaper today in which he said that there is a joint Syrian- Libyan plan to assassinate Yasir 'Arafat and some senior PLO officials in Tunisia. Abu Iyad said that according to the plan, Syria and Libya will use frogmen to carry out a naval landing operation on Tunisian shores. Is there any connection between *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH*'s statement and that of Abu Iyad?

[Halevi] There is a strong connection. In this regard, a person was arrested in Tunisia. Syria and Libya are cooperating to destroy Yasir 'Arafat — who departed from Syria's domination, who attacked Al-Asad's regime, who managed to convene the PNC in Jordan, and who called for independent Palestinian decision-making.

[Reporter] Let us go back to the Egyptian newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*. Yasir 'Arafat has violently attacked Syria and expressed his belief that there will be no possibility of reconciliation between the PLO and the Syrian authorities as long as Damascus continues its liquidatory policy against the PLO. By the way, Egyptian journalist Mahmud al-Ansari is the one who held the interview with Salah Khalaf and Yasir 'Arafat.

[Halevi] There will be no such reconciliation as long as Damascus continues its liquidatory policy against the PLO. Damascus will not remain silent. Damascus will continue to cooperate with Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who loves adventures and is known as one of the leaders of international terrorism. Damascus will also cooperate with dissident organizations led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] George Habas, Nayif Hawatimah, and Ahmad Jibril. The language of physical liquidations between adversaries is a tough one. Fahd al-Qawasimi was the latest victim of that language.

[Reporter] Regarding Fahd al-Qawasimi, we heard today that those who assassinated him are Palestinians with relations with 'Arafat's organization. Al-Qawasimi had disclosed some corruption and theft from the Jordanian steadfastness fund.

[Halevi] This has been announced by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AM*, which sympathizes with Syria. Syria will not remain silent. Syria levels accusations against others to avoid similar accusations against it. Rumors are being spread by known sources that Fahd al-Qawasimi was liquidated by Hamid Abu Sittah, director of the Occupied Homeland Department. Everyone is accusing everyone else. The assassination weapon is two-edged, and if assassination operations begin, no one knows when they will stop or who will be liquidated.

[Reporter] This means that the killers will also be killed.

[Halevi] That is right.

Further Reportage on OATUU Congress in Lagos

SDAR Observer Status Discusses

AB240910 Lagos NAN in English 0850 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 23 (NAN) — The observer status granted to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) at the current 4th Congress of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) was today in Lagos withdrawn by the organisation's secretariat.

Conference sources told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that the withdrawal was sequel to a point raised by some delegates that the recognition of SDAR by the OAU was not an automatic qualification for its participation in OATUU. The stand of the congress, the source said, was that since the SDAR had not applied formally for membership of the organisation, it was not entitled to a seat at the congress. To qualify for membership, the SDAR must apply through the secretary-general, to the executive council whose decision is subject to ratification by the congress, the source added.

The NLC [Nigerian Labour Congress] information officer, Malam Salisu Muhammed, told NAN the SDAR delegates were erroneously invited by NLC as observers at the congress. Malam Salisu said that the SDAR delegates would however be allowed to remain in their hotels until the end of the congress.

The Moroccan delegation yesterday walked out on the conference following presence of the SDAR delegation. They returned to their seats after the NLC officials had explained that they were observers at the congress.

Secretary General Reviews Activities

AB241152 Lagos NAN in English 0928 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 23 (NAN) — The Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) intervened in 16 cases of trade union rights violations in Africa in the past four years, its secretary-general, Mr. Dennis Akumu, said in Lagos today.

Delivering a report on the activities of the union's secretariat to its fourth congress, Mr. Akumu said that the interventions which occurred in 16 countries resulted in the prevention of attempts to ban trade union movements, release of detained union leaders and revocation of death sentences against unionists. Others, he said, were the stoppage of a bill to split trade unions in Nigeria and protests on administrative interferences in the internal affairs of national labour centres.

Mr. Akumu further said that the OATUU Secretariat had within the past four years increased its campaign against the apartheid regime in South Africa, adding that a number of international conferences and seminars had been organised by the union on the subject. "We are now co-ordinating with the Maritime Unions Against Apartheid (MUAA) on the possibility of embarking on an oil embargo against South Africa," he said.

He said that 10 of the 13 proposed pan-African federations had either been formed or were in the process of being formed. Among those already formed, he said, were the Pan-African Workers of Commerce (PANACOM) in Congo, the All-African Teachers' Organisation in Ghana, the Pan-African Federation of Mineworkers in Algeria, the Pan-African Federation of Agricultural Trade Unions in Togo and the Pan-African Federation of Petroleum Energy and Allied workers in Libya.

Mr. Akumu said that officials of the OATUU Secretariat had also visited Europe to "acquaint themselves" with the life of the African migrant workers there and had also discussed the "Amelioration of their living conditions with a number of European trade union centres."

Mr. Akumu told the delegates that OATUU had embarked on joint programmes with a number of Arab institutions under the auspices of the Afro-Arab Trade Union Conference on Co-operation.

ALGERIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Saudi Crown Prince

Holds Talks With Prime Minister

LD232304 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Algerian-Saudi political talks commenced this morning in the (?Manktada) Hotel under the chairmanship of Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi from the Algerian side, and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, from the Saudi side.

The talks, which continued for 2 hours, covered ways to consolidate relations between the two fraternal countries in the economic and commercial fields. Within this framework, the two delegations listened to a report on the progress achieved in economic cooperation. The two sides stressed [words indistinct] the commercial exchanges.

They discussed issues relating to the international oil market and the coordination of the positions of the two countries in the interest of the OPEC countries.

During their talks the two delegations also discussed international issues in general and Arab issues in particular in both the Maghreb and Mashriq. They also discussed existing bloody Iran and Iraq war.

The Algerian delegation consisted of Brothers Djamel Houhou, the minsiter of public health; Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy and petrochemical industries; Mohamed Aberkane, deputy minister of external trade; Mostapha Nenawar, deputy minister of finance; [name indistinct], head of the Arab affairs department in the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and a number of senior officials.

The Saudi side consisted of Faysal al-Huyajlan, the minister of health; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, minister of industry and electricity; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuayjari, assistant deputy commander of the National Guard; Nasir al-Rajihi, chief of crown prince's court; Prince Turki ibn 'Abdallah, adviser to the crown prince's court; and Muhammad Hasan al-Fazi, the Saudi ambassador to Algeria.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD250013 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has ended his 3-day visit to Algeria during which he was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, the FLN Party secretary general and president of the republic.

Talks were held between the two countries' delegations dealing with ways and means of strengthening bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries in the economic and commercial fields and the situation in the international oil market. Major international issues in general and Arab issues in particular were also discussed.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Interviewed by AL-MAJALLAH

PM241239 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 23-29 Jan 85 pp 10-16

[Interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by chief editor 'Imad al-Din Adhib in Tripoli — date no given]

[Text] 'Imad: You realize that every theory is the outcome of a socioeconomic condition at a given historical stage. My question to you is, was the historical condition in which the Jamahiriyah is now living, the socioeconomic situation the reason that prompted you to do what you are doing? In other words, was there a real and inevitable need for your theory?

Mu'ammar: I have not done what I have done because I was compelled to do it. But after the idea of revolution ripened in my mind, I felt that the world in which we live was going through a real political crisis. My study of history -- as I am specialized in history — has proven to me that the base of political opposition in the world is broadening, while the base of political participation is narrowing. For this reason I devised a theory that enables the base of both participation and opposition to broaden simultaneously, so that the forces are not divided into oppositionist and participant. I devised a system that does not make one deputize for the other.

The parliaments we see today have become obsolete. The parliaments today approve, the governments decide, and the peoples come out to demonstrate against the parliaments they have elected, as is happening in Western Europe. This shows that the parliament does not really reflect the people's will. European governments approve of wars and nuclear missiles while the European masses are against wars and nuclear missiles. This shows that governments and peoples are far apart.

This political controversy will eventually lead to "all the people" participating in the authority. According to this view the parliaments, governments, regular armies, and police will come to an end and the state will be administered by the masses.

In our theory we have the slogan: No democracy without peoples' congresses and committees everywhere. Every peoples' congress held anywhere is like a parliament. Instead of having one assembly representing the people, the people are divided into multiple assemblies.

'Imad: I understand from what you say that you favor a system that enables "everybody" to participate in power, and enables all to have freedom of expression...

Mu'ammar: (Interrupting) Oh, I am with the contemporary law, which is power for everybody.

'Imad: (Interrupting) This leads me to discuss a phrase you said in explaining the *Green Book*. Regarding freedom of expression, you said "if there is a community of 10 people in which nine agree on a certain view, I do not care about the view of the one individual who opposes the view of the nine." In fact I totally disagree with this view, because it is not fair to the one individual. Suppose that a person does not believe in your Jamahiriyah system. Where will his place be with you?

Mu'ammar: It is the Jamahiriyah system that gives freedom of expression to the individual. In a system like this, a minority is not oppressed. Even in the people's congresses we find that if one expresses a different view, it is recorded in the minutes and his view is heeded. For example, if some of the congresses recommends a certain system for land reform, and a minority opposes it, what happens? The majority applies the system it approved and the minority does not approve it until it sees the outcome of the system once implemented. When the General People's Congress, which includes representatives from all the people's congresses, meets, its task is to reconcile various views. But this does not discount the minority view. For this reason, we are against having one person express the view of 10 or 10 people express the views of 1 million. "Representation is manipulation." Nobody can represent another or express well the feelings and interests of others. Everyone expresses his own views.

'Imad: This is something on which we could agree or disagree: it could be considered one of the positive matters. But what I do not consider positive and can never agree with, is that a people's congress should meet in the Jamahiriyah and decide at the end of its meeting to pass a death sentence against an individual or a group of people. Do you approve of such decisions?

Mu'ammar: This is a matter that concerns the congress that made the decision. But the final say lies not with the congress, but with the ordinary courts. In these courts the people provide the accused a defense lawyer and pay the expenses of the judge and the attorney.

Ordinary cases are dealt with by ordinary courts, which have all the abilities to pass a fair judgement against the accused. But in exceptional cases there could be revolutionary courts, like those set up after the United States trained a number of Muslim Brotherhood members and sent them to the country to carry out sabotage. It was the people through their congresses that, thank God, tried them, stood against them, and destroyed them. They wanted to take shelter in an inhabited building, as members of the Muslim Brotherhood usually do. The "masses" attacked them after removing the innocent inhabitants from the building. The result was that all the Muslim Brotherhood members' names were taken down and they were arrested. A people's congress held a public meeting and tried them. The congress announced its decision to execute them.

But generally this is not the basis of justice in our country.

'Imad: The Western papers say that there are more than 2,000 political detainees in Libya. Is this true?

Mu'ammar: It is not true. There are...there are scores.

'Imad: Yesterday I performed the Friday prayers in a mosque in Sabratah. In this mosque and through my tour of the Jamahiriyah, I felt that Islam is strong in Libya. Is there a possibility of the Islamic fundamentalist trends' taking part in political activities in the Jamahiriyah? Is there a dialogue with these trends, and do they have any future? Or should they participate only in accordance with what the *Green Book* says?

Mu'ammar: Anyone who has a view to express can be a member of the people's congresses; he may come and say whatever he wants, particularly since the Holy Koran is the source of legislation, and our constitution says so. We are with freedom. Nobody can be happy unless he is free. "Need lies in freedom."

'Imad: I have read scores of placards which say, "Need lies in freedom." Frankly I did not understand the meaning of this phrase.

Mu'ammar: A needy person is not free. If you are my servant, then you are not quite free. If you rent an apartment in my building, then you are not free. Therefore, "need lies in freedom."

'Imad: The phrase should be recorded to read "need lies in lack of freedom."

Mu'ammar: (Laughing) This is not the point. What I would like to say, and what you should understand, is that a needy person is not free.

'Imad: Let me ask you a question which is on my mind. How is Libya ruled now? Or more correctly, who rules Libya? Let me explain to you my view, and correct me if I am wrong.

I see in Libya a number of powers. These are: "the leader" (Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi), the Revolution Command Council, the people's committees, the people's congresses, the General People's Congress (parliament), the General Secretariat (the cabinet), the Army, then the revolutionary committees of which you are the leader. There are also opposition forces inside and outside Libya consisting of capitalists and oppositionists. Does this not constitute a conflict within the authorities, and will it not lead to internal conflicts in the future?

Mu'ammar: Society in the Jamahiriyah is divided into people's congresses and people's committees. The congresses decide everything that has to do with the external or internal policies. The people's committees implement and follow up these policies. Inside these committees and congresses there are revolutionary committees. Altogether these committees incite revolution and urge participation and the following up of decisions. I personally lead these revolutionary committees so as to strengthen the will of the masses. The revolutionary committees do not exercise power, nor does the Revolution Command Council. I do not exercise power. Everything has been dissolved; the cabinet has been dissolved, and the Revolution Command Council has been dissolved.

'Imad: (Interrupting) What is Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's constitutional position?

Mu'ammar: (After a silence) I have absolutely no power.

'Imad: You have a job.
Mu'ammar: (Immediately) No, no, no, I have no job whatsoever. I do not have the power to sign any decision here in Libya or abroad.

'Imad: (Interrupting) You get a salary.
Mu'ammar: Yes, I do get a salary...

'Imad: You get a salary for what job?
Mu'ammar: (Laughing) I receive a salary since I was a colonel in the Libyan Army. I was a major, and after the revolution I obtained the rank of colonel. Since then I have been receiving the salary of a colonel.

'Imad: Only?
Mu'ammar: Only!
'Imad: Supposing you meet King Hassan II, for example; in what capacity do you meet him?
Mu'ammar: In my capacity as the revolution leader.

'Imad: If an agreement is signed between Libya and another state, who signs it, and how will you have the power to sign?

Mu'ammar: I have no power to sign any agreement with states. Even if I signed any agreement, political paper, or anything with another state, such a signature would be only a "courtesy." But it will not be valid unless it is put to the people's congresses and endorsed. It is possible for these congresses to say no to what I have signed. It is their view that is put into effect.

'Imad: Let us assume that I am a Libyan citizen and that I have stood up in one of these congresses and called for your dismissal from your post. What post would that be?

Mu'ammar: Whose dismissal? There is no post you can dismiss me from. There is no appointment or dismissal in the revolution.

'Imad: For example, when you send Revolution Command Council members Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud or Al-Khuwaydi al-Humaydi on political missions abroad, in what capacity do you do so?

Mu'ammar: In a revolutionary capacity. We are only the ones who carried out the revolution. We cannot do anything against the Libyan people's will. Do you know that the people frequently reject proposals I submit to them? I have, for example, proposed that a child's elementary education should be done at home by his parents.

'Imad: When would the parents go to work if they spent their time teaching their children?

Mu'ammar (continuing): What is important is that the aim of my proposal was to give the parents the responsibility for elementary education. However, the people's congresses rejected the proposal. I also proposed the reduction of subsidies for tea, sugar, and many other consumer goods. They rejected those proposals too. The decisions are made by the people's congresses. I have no power above theirs. If I go now, the masses can take my place and they can do without me and without the revolutionary committees.

'Imad: Which are the stronger, the people's committees or the revolutionary committees?
Mu'ammar: The role of the revolutionary committees is to strengthen the people's committees.

'Imad: What if the revolutionary committees held a view completely contrary to that of the people's committees?

Mu'ammar: No, no, such a contradiction will never happen. The members of the revolutionary committees are revolutionary men and they motivate the masses. How can there be contradiction between a revolutionary person and the masses? The masses may not respond to a revolutionary person's exhortation, but that does not mean that there is contradiction between them. I cannot say that I rule on behalf of the people. No, that will never happen. I will never rule on their behalf or in their stead. 'Imad, do you know what 'Abd al-Nasir's mistake was?

'Imad: What was it?
Mu'ammar: Until his death, 'Abd al-Nasir was loyal to the masses, who loved him and had great faith in him. He began to act in place of the masses. The "president" became the idol. He became everything. As long as he was there, he knew where the interests of the masses lay and he was the one to solve their problems. In that sense President 'Abd al-Nasir became everything.

'Imad: So what is the difference between you and 'Abd al-Nasir in this connection?

Mu'ammar: No, I am doing the opposite. I tell the masses: If you really love me, then you rule instead of me, and so everyone becomes as powerful as Al-Qadhdhafi.

Today I do not exercise power. That is why the masses will be able to rule after I go. In 'Abd al-Nasir's case, when he died the masses found themselves without the president to whom they had entrusted their will. That means that their will died with him. When Al-Sadat came to power, he took that will to the stable David (in the Jamahiriyah they call Camp David the stable David). I have given the people their will. I am here lest their will die after me. The Egyptian masses did not die, but their will died with 'Abd al-Nasir. Here in Libya it is quite the opposite.

'Imad: Clearly you expect too much from the Libyan people. You want them to practice democracy, pursue militarization, solve sanitation problems, expand agriculture, have people's committees, and so on. You want all that, even though Libyan society is still suffering from fundamental problems such as illiteracy and the old tribal social structure. Are you not speeding up the normal historical development cycle?

Mu'ammar: That is true. I do ask much of the Libyan people, but I seek to strengthen the Libyan people's will and revolutionary motivation. I will tell you a story to explain what I mean. In the 'Abbasite era, I think, one of the caliphs summoned a doctor to treat his wife who was suffering from chronic paralysis of the left arm. Do you know what the doctor did to cure her? (Here signs of extreme admiration appeared on Mu'ammar's face

as he told the story.) The doctor tied up her good arm and then pretended that he was going to tear up her dress completely. The caliph's wife was so upset and frightened that she moved the paralyzed arm. That means that there is a latent power in human beings and that people have to be greatly provoked or challenged to move and excel. The Arab nation can excel and it has a tremendous latent power.

'Imad: Let us move to another point that I find difficult to understand. I can understand the justification for the state's control of production, but I do not understand why a barber's shop or a sandwich kiosk should be run by a people's committee or why the government should prevent such stores from operating on their own. You have gone too far in your experiment. Don't you think that it is against the laws of nature to prohibit man's traditional consumer practices?

Mu'ammar: We only acknowledge productive people. I cannot, for example, give a license to 10 people and withhold it from 100 others. Starting an unproductive project is one of the easiest things to do. If we let that happen, the entire society would become unproductive.

'Imad: People throughout the world — and this has been the case throughout history — produce in order to consume some of their products. There must be an awareness of natural human needs and customs.

Mu'ammar: Here in Libya we do that. There are cafes, restaurants, and stores, but they are all projects run by the people's committees, and there is no special vocation. The Jamahiriyah's socialism is different from Marxist socialism and from socialism in Western Europe. Our socialism is based on the principle that a society's wealth should be equally shared by all of its members. You get only what you need. If you are entitled to a house, then you can own one, but you have no right to have more than one house. A worker is your partner, not your hired hand. You get a share of what is produced. If you work in a car factory you get a share of the cars. (Here Mu'ammar raised a tea cup.) If this cup costs 5 piastres, then we sell it for 5 piastres, without making profit from the people.

'Imad: (Interrupting) Yesterday I visited a textile mill in the Janzur area. I asked the workers: Do you make any profits? They said that the question of profits has not yet been resolved. Doesn't your socialism give the profits to the workers?

Mu'ammar: (Laughing) Profits? Yes, we give them more than that. We give them a share of the products. For example, let us say that a car factory that produces 30 cars is based on the workers, the machines, and the raw materials. We distribute the production proceeds equally among the workers, the machines, and the raw materials. Here we do not have people who make profit from other people.

'Imad: You could have a private sector with its own price law and thus give individual initiative a chance.

Mu'ammar: No, this so-called prices law is a bourgeois solution. That is what we call a reform solution. They are a kind of cosmetic solution. What happened to these solutions in Egypt? They all disappeared with a stroke of Al-Sadat's pen. What we are doing here cannot be eliminated with a stroke of anyone's pen. A house belongs to whoever lives in it, and the land belongs to everyone.

'Imad: But, by saying that your theory is the best theory in the world, aren't you being unfair to the other political theories in the world? Is it reasonable to say: "I am right and everybody else is wrong"?

Mu'ammar: The capitalist world's corruption has been proven. Marxism was a reaction to the class society of the capitalist world, but even Marxism is in the grip of a crisis right now, as in China. The Polish experiment has proved that the state, not the workers, rules in a Marxist society. The communist party is no longer the pioneer of the masses. There is an economic, political, and social crisis throughout the world. Marxism has now reached a dead end. Civilization should not simply view the crisis as a spectator. That is where our theory comes in, and it overcomes the crises of capitalism and Marxism.

'Imad: You know that there is a time and a place for every theory. Theories are introduced to suit the historic, geographic, social, and economic circumstances of the various societies. Assuming that I am a Swede and very happy with the system I live under, would I conceivably say: If I were not a Swede I would like to be a Libyan, because the Jamahiriyah has come up with a third theory?

Mu'ammar: A Swede would be happier under the Jamahiriyah system. In Sweden the regime imposes taxes, compulsory conscription, nuclear missiles, and military pacts or treaties that the people do not want. The demonstrations against nuclear missiles prove that the European people oppose the parliaments that approved the deployment of missiles on their territory. The European people are against their governments.

'Imad: Not all the peoples and not every individual is against nuclear missiles. I am against nuclear missiles, but to be fair it must be said that millions of peoples in Western Europe support the deployment of nuclear missiles on their territory as a deterrent against any hostile nuclear attack.

Mu'ammar: All living peoples reject nuclear missiles. The GreensParty, for example, agrees with the third universal theory. Although we have not met with its members personally, they are an extension of us. This is an indication that the peoples are marching and will not stop until they achieve power in Europe and then replace the armies, the police, and all the state institutions.

'Imad: Let us now move on to discuss Arab and international affairs. I was at the recent PNC meeting in Amman and I heard some people ask: How can Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi be supporting Nicaragua more than he supports the PLO? How can the "Greens" in Europe be a natural extension of you more than the Palestinian revolution?

Mu'ammar: (Irritated) On the contrary, I am for the Palestinian revolution with all my might. But let me ask you: Is the Palestinian revolution Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], or is it the

"uprising" within the Fatah movement?

'Imad: The Palestinian revolution is what the Palestinian people choose through their legitimate institutions. These institutions have chosen Muhamad 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Qudwah, [as published] known as Abu 'Ammar.

Mu'ammar: The Palestinian people are under both Arab and Israeli occupation. Where is the Palestinian people's ability to choose their leadership freely while Arab governments are occupying the Palestinian people?

'Imad: (Interrupting) The instigatory role that you exercise with the Libyan people can be exercised with the Palestinian people, to make them united and not fragmented and divided...

Mu'ammar: (Firmly and angrily) I exhort the Palestinians to stage revolution everywhere, provided that their slogan is "trenches, not hotels" and that the Palestinian movement is united.

'Imad: "Exhortation" is by deeds and not by words. Let me ask you frankly: Where were you and where was the Libyan support when the Palestinian resistance was besieged for 88 days in Beirut?

Mu'ammar: (Protesting) Who supported and armed the resistance? We have given the Palestinians arms worth more than $1 billion. Let me ask you: How could my forces reach Beirut? This was not possible by land, sea, or air. I asked many Arab countries to help me take my forces into combat and lift the Beirut siege, but they refused. (Mu'ammar here gave an unpublishable description of these states).

'Imad: Did you ask Syria?
Mu'ammar: (Silent for a moment in order to choose his words) Syria... Syria's position is difficult... In fact its position was extremely difficult.

'Imad: The Palestinians were also in a difficult position, yet you directed your anger at the Palestinian position and you were hard on them after they left Beirut.

Mu'ammar: I was hard on them, how?
'Imad: You asked them to commit suicide.

Mu'ammar: Never. Suicide meant fighting — never leaving Beirut and fighting a suicidal battle. The Jews are cowards and would have been forced to withdraw. Reagan himself withdrew the Marines as a result of the brave resistance by the Lebanese nationalist forces. If Abu 'Ammar had been brave and launched suicidal operations against the Israelis in Beirut, they would have withdrawn and he would have remained in Beirut. But Abu 'Ammar and his forces did not fight.

'Imad: My question here is not Abu 'Ammar but the honor of the Palestinians' fight. Was not fighting for 88 days in Beirut under Arab and Israeli siege a suicidal action by the Palestinians?

Mu'ammar: No, Abu 'Ammar did not fight, as all the Palestinian resistance leaders and all those who were in Beirut have attested. There was no fighting. I assure you that the Palestinian resistance in Beirut did not fight.

'Imad: (Interrupting) You may disagree with Abu 'Ammar, but this is not the issue. The important thing is that people were actually killed or wounded, and so it is a "shame" to say that they did not fight during those 88 days. Otherwise, why did the operation take 88 days?

Mu'ammar: Oh, there are ordinary Palestinain fedayeen who fought, but not Abu 'Ammar and his men. The Palestinian attitude as a whole was not suicidal, such as, for example, a Palestinian fedayeen throwing himself against an Israeli tank and destroying it. That is a suicidal fedayeen stand. The Israelis are not prepared to face such a fedayeen suicide action. The Israelis do not have the courage. I believe it is possible to wipe out Israel in 24 hours in a fedayeen suicide fight by the resistance and the Arab armies. But nobody has made such a decision yet.

'Imad: Mu'ammar, you are being hard on the Palestinians. There is a possibility in every war. What happened in Beirut was the result of Arab pressure and Arab defeatism; it was harder than the Israeli siege. The Palestinians fought under those circumstances, achieved what they could, and left.

Mu'ammar: I know that there was defeatism on the part of some Arabs, but I was not allowed to send my forces. I could do nothing at a distance of 4,000 km. Moreover, Abu 'Ammar exploited a telegram I sent to him during the siege asking him to fight a suicidal fight. My idea was a fedayeen fight, with the resistance not leaving Beirut under Israeli pressure. Abu 'Ammar used this telegram to "slander" me.

'Imad: It is said that, when disagreement broke out between the "revolution" (the Palestinians) and the "state" (Syria), Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi took sides with the "state" against the "revolution."

Mu'ammar: No, I stood with the revolution, as I showed by standing with the Fatah rising against the Palestinian right. I stood with Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa], Khalid al-'Imlah, and Samir Ghawshah.

'Imad: Abu 'Ammar differs with them because, as he said to me in an earlier interview, they opened fire on their Palestinian people in Tripoli.

Mu'ammar: (Firmly) No, no, that is not true. It was Abu 'Ammar who opened fire on his brothers. Abu 'Ammar represents Fatah, and Fatah decided to drop him just as any people drop their leadership. It was Abu 'Ammar who let the events in Tripoli degenerate into fighting.

'Imad: But how would you explain Abu 'Ammar's success in securing PNC endorsement in Amman for the legality of Fatah and of the PNC itself?

Mu'ammar: (Protesting) Was what took place in Amman a PNC meeting? Most of the PLO members did not attend. This was a fake council. Where was Khalid al-Fahum, the PNC

chairman?

'Imad: Allow me, Mu'ammar, to convey to you the view of the other side as I heard it from Abu 'Ammar's leadership. And you must understand that I am only trying to convey the other side's view. If I were with Abu 'Ammar I would have sincerely conveyed your viewpoint to him. And if I were with Jibril's Fatah, Samir Ghawshah, or Abu Musa I would have conveyed Abu 'Ammar's viewpoint to them, and so forth.

Mu'ammar: Please proceed...
'Imad: They said in Amman that, in accordance with the statute and in the absence of the PNC chairman for any reason, the vice chairman would send out invitations for convening the PNC and fix the time and place of the meeting. And, if there was a quorum at the meeting, then the council and, consequently, its resolutions would be considered legal and binding.

Mu'ammar: Abu 'Ammar, dear sir, appointed members to the PNC, and therefore it was no longer legitimate. But let me tell you that this is not my principal concern. Whether Abu 'Ammar remains or not is not my problem. I am not against Abu 'Ammar in flesh and blood or in name. I am against his defeatist stands. I stand for armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea, even if the Palestinians do recognize Israel. I am for armed struggle because Israel's objective is not only Palestine. Its objective is to occupy and dominate the whole Arab world. It is the Zionist, colonialist enemy, that is now armed with nuclear weapons and is currently posing a serious threat to the Arabs. Whether the world likes it or not, we reject the presence of this enemy because he threatens our existence. I wish that Abu 'Ammar would return and lead the battle to liberate Palestine or indeed that some other person would come forward and lead the liberation battle.

'Imad: Well, I would like to ask you: How will you deal with the present situation? Have you finally chosen to stand against what you call the Palestinian right and with the factions of the Palestinian left? Or is there a possibility of reconciliation between you and Abu 'Ammar's leadership and of a political agreement being reached?

Mu'ammar: There is no problem between me and Abu 'Ammar. Yasir 'Arafat is the chairman of Fatah and Fatah has revolted against him. I cannot leave Fatah and go along with Abu 'Ammar, none of whose men is present in Lebanon's Al-Biqa'. I am with the Fatah which is in Al-Biqa'. But Abu 'Ammar is in Tunis. I am with the Fatah in the field. The man in that Fatah is Abu Musa.

'Imad: Can you not conciliate between them?
Mu'ammar: (Protesting) Why should I play the role of conciliator, 'Imad? They know their problems and the solutions to them better. Moreover, the Palestinian knows Abu 'Ammar better and has rejected him. Briefly, I am with the revolution.

'Imad: Let me ask a question that is perplexing many Arabs. How could you adopt a stand of supporting the Iranian revolution in its war with Arab Iraq? Why did you adopt this stand?

Mu'ammar: I am not against but for the Iranian revolution, whether Iran is fighting Iraq or not. The question of the Iraq-Iran war is a separate matter. From the start I was with the revolution against the former shah. I was against the terrible U.S. influence in Iran. I was the one who called for revolution in Iran because the shah was the enemy of the Arab nation and an ally of Israel. I incited revolution against the shah; the revolution did take place, and it succeeded. The fact that Iran is fighting Iraq is a passing matter that will not let me change my attitude to the Iranian revolution. So how can you ask me to fight against that revolution?

'Imad: You are not asked to fight the Iranian revolution. But you are requested to play your "instigatory role," to "exhort" Iran to stop the war with Iraq and reach a just and honorable agreement between the two sides.

Mu'ammar: You must know that I have made great efforts with Iran to stop this war. To this moment the Iranians insist that they were not the party that started this war.

'Imad: Let me ask you: Judging from your information and strong contacts with Iran, do you believe that Iran will stop the war?

Mu'ammar: (The colonel here dropped a bombshell, although he was talking very quietly and matter-of-factly as if, for example, he was just saying: Good morning!) According to my information Iran will not end the war because it believes that it is closer to an end in its favor than to a retreat.

'Imad: The Arab world is preparing for an Arab summit to be held in the next few weeks or months. Are you in favor of such efforts?

Mu'ammar: I have always been and continue to be in favor of convening an Arab summit, even if circumstances dictate that I will not attend it. I believe that the present circumstances call for convening an Arab summit to try to salvage the present situation. I am in favor of Arab summits even if there is an Arab summit every month. What is important is that at these summits the Arabs should maintain their official and written pledges. For example, after the Arabs decided to break off relations with Egypt, some of them began visiting it, contacting it, establishing diplomatic relations with it, and concluding trade agreements with it, thus ignoring the Arab summit resolutions. Some Arab leaders have signed unity and bilateral agreements with me, but they never honored their signatures. For this reason I say that most of the Arab leaders do not keep their word and do not honor their promises. Nonetheless, I advocate holding an Arab summit because it is better than the present dispersion. If Arab summits were held in good time, the Arab situation would be better than it is now.

'Imad: You have spoken about what you called boycotting the Egyptian regime. But what Libya is doing is boycotting not what it calls the "regime" but the people.

Mu'ammar: (Angrily) How is this? How do you differentiate between boycotting the people and the regime?

'Imad: I will tell you...

Mu'ammar: How?

'Imad: For example, with regard to the airlines between Egypt and Libya. You have decided that planes coming from Egypt cannot land directly in Libya. Therefore, the Egyptian worker or the Egyptian old lady, for example, has to fly to Tripoli via Athens. Is this reasonable? The one paying the price is the ordinary Egyptian citizen.

Mu'ammar: It was Husni Mubarak who closed the land borders...

'Imad: (Interrupting) I am talking about flights and not borders.
Mu'ammar: (Asking with anger) Why should the land borders not be open?

'Imad: (With the same angry tone) Why not open the air routes?
Mu'ammar: Because the land is nearer. Moreover, no Libyan plane will land at Cairo airport, where Israeli planes land.

'Imad: Well, but Libya has planes that land at Heathrow airport in London alongside Israeli El Al planes.

Mu'ammar: It is not permissible to have an Arab plane side by side with an Israeli plane on Arab soil. (Adding angrily) How nice! Will treason become a view meriting discussion?

'Imad: Treason is not a view meriting discussion, but it is the Egyptian citizen who is paying the price.

Mu'ammar: (Protesting) Egypt is the apple of our eye. When Al-Sadat concluded the "David stable" agreements, not one single Egyptian worker in Libya was molested. But it is the responsibility of the Egyptian citizen not to deal with "David stable" agreements and to rid Egypt of them. Let the Egyptian people come and live in Libya and declare that they are not with the "David stable" agreements!

'Imad: You are talking about opening Libya for the Egyptian people to come and live. And day and night you talk about pan-Arabism and advocate it in your *Green Book* and all the books. Do you know where I came from before I arrived in Tripoli? I came to you, Brother Mu'ammar, from Cyprus, where I did not need a visa to enter. Do you know that Libyan Airlines in Cyprus prevented me from boarding the plane because I had no visa, despite the fact that I am an Arab journalist. Is this reasonable? Non-Arab, Christian Cyprus allows me to enter without a visa while the unionist, Arab, and Muslim Jamahiriyah refuses me?

Mu'ammar: (Sadly) I am against not issuing a Libyan entry visa to every Arab citizen. I am in favor of the Arab citizens' entering Libya with his personal identiy card issued in his country. I will talk about this matter at the first people's congress to discuss foreign affairs and call for the abolition of visas. I believe that the question of visas is a shameful thing.

'Imad: Let met ask you about the intensive contacts being held in order to hold a five-man summit among the Arab Maghreb countries (Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, and Mauritania). How far could this summit succeed, and what could it lead to?

Mu'ammar: Contacts between these countries have been going on for some time with the aim of achieving unity. We hope that the Algerian revolution will stand against the colonialist efforts aimed at trying to prevent it from participating in the unity of the Arab Maghreb states, which could be the nucleus of a greater Arab unity. I am prepared to attend any meeting of the Arab Maghreb states if it contributes to unity efforts, but if the meetings aim at achieving other objectives, then I am not interested in participating in them.

'Imad: Are you in favor of a unity that could recognize the distinctive character and the right of every party to have its own internal political system?

Mu'ammar: I respect any Arab regime that would enter into unity with me. I am now respecting and supporting King Hassan II's regime and will certainly not do anything against it, because we belong to an Arab federation. In this federation every region maintains its distinctive character and system of government. A republic remains a republic, a sultanate a sultanate, and a monarchy a monarchy. (This is a radical departure by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who until recently saw any unity as calling for changing the government system and internal institutions in the parties concerned).

So if the inhabitants of a sultanate want to change the sultan or the inhabitants of the Jamahiriyah want to change Mu'ammar, they are free. It is an internal matter.

'Imad: Can you respect a view that says: Mu'ammar, I respect you but I do not want to be in the mire with you?

Mu'ammar: Nobody has a right to object to unity. To us, anyone who is against unity is against the Arab people, and we should fight and oppose them, because anyone who takes a stand against unity aims to weaken it.

'Imad: Well, suppose that he wants unity with someone else, other than you?

Mu'ammar: Fine, I support all steps toward unity in the Arab world. I would even support unity between Egypt and Sudan, although I disagree with their regimes. I strongly support the GCC and I dream about the whole region becoming one state, God willing. I dream about the two Yemens becoming one state, and if Mauritania, Tunisia, and Algeria became one state I would support that state.

'Imad: In other words you would support unity between regimes you oppose.

Mu'ammar: I support the unity of the Arab nation. I have already called for unity of the Arab Maghreb, for Egyptian-Sudanese unity, and for Syrian-Lebanese unity. Seven or eight united states are, in my opinion, stronger than 20 separate Arab states.

'Imad: Let me ask you about the present state of U.S.-Libyan

relations. It is clear that these relations are very tense. Despite that, something quite different is happening. I am talking about the continued "business" between the Jamahiriyah and the United States. How do you reconcile the political differences with the continued economic cooperation?

Mu'ammar: That shows that U.S. policy is in conflict with U.S. interests. The proof is that the United States supports Israel against the Arab nation even though its interests in such an area as the Arab world are greater and more durable that its interests in such a racist and Zionist entity as Israel. We are certain that U.S. Zionism is at the core of U.S. policy.

'Imad: Does that mean that you cannot contemplate or conceive of a meeting between you and U.S. President Ronald Reagan?

Mu'ammar: I am ready to meet and talk with any man anywhere in the world, except the Zionist enemy.

'Imad: Does that mean that you are not opposed to opening a new page in U.S.-Libyan relations?

Mu'ammar: I am all for good relations between Libya and any power in the world. As a superpower, the United States should adopt a neutral, not hostile attitude to the people who fight imperialism. In the case of an afflicted people, such as the Palestinian people, the United States should support the rights of those people or at least adopt a neutral attitude to their struggle for liberation, instead of supporting the Israeli enemy. The United States, a superpower, is pitted today against 2 million Libyan people.

'Imad: (Interrupting) Your official statistics say that Libya's population is 3.4 million.

Mu'ammar: Say 3.5 or 4 million. What is important is this: (Laughing) Is it reasonable for the United States, with all its might, to stand against the Libyan people?

'Imad: Brother Mu'ammar, you are always talking about Arab nationalism, but certain things make your commitment to that slogan highly questionable. For example, you are working on a project which, it has been said, will be the eighth wonder of the world. I refer here to the "great river" project that will cost some $20 billion. It has been said that the cable wires to be used in that project are enough to go around the world 55 times. Since you advocate Arab nationalism, how do you justify the fact that all the studies, contracts, and installation work have been entrusted to foreign companies, that is to British, French, German, Finnish, and Korean companies? How do you justify the fact that not a single Arab company from anywhere between the Gulf and the ocean is involved in this project?

Mu'ammar: Simply because the Arab companies did not come forward.

'Imad: Is that possible?
Mu'ammar: They did not come forward. Do not talk about Egypt in connection with this project. We cannot provide funds to support the David stable. The David stable was an abominable crime because it recognized the Zionist enemy, which we should eliminate, not recognize.

'Imad: Brother Mu'ammar, there is a strange contradiction. You say that with your third theory you have managed to surpass traditional forms of government. Could the brain that managed to do that not do something unconventional to get Egypt out of Camp David? Which is closer to you: Nicaragua, which you support, or Egypt? Furthermore, you ask Husni Mubarak to abandon Camp David, but do you think that is an easy thing to do?

Mu'ammar: Brother....
'Imad: (Interrupting) Allow me to finish explaining my viewpoint. First of all, you know that I personally, as a journalist and as an Arab, was, am, and will always be against Camp David, but I will try to explain to you the complexities of the situation resulting from Camp David. There are two main problems:

1. The agreement means a U.S. role. The United States means economic aid for Egypt, especially wheat, which comes to Egypt by sea every 3 months.

2. Making any uncalculated move to abrogate the agreements could lead to the mobilization of Israeli forces in Sinai and drag Egypt into a military situation currently not in its interest. The Institute of Strategic Studies has confirmed that the Israeli army is superior to the Arab armies in a ration of five to two in Israel's favor if fighting were to break out today.

Mu'ammar: (Angrily) That is extremely disgraceful. Instead of supplying the world with wheat, Egypt imports it from the United States at the expense of its national sovereignty and in favor of growth for a colonialist, aggressive entity armed with nuclear weapons. Egypt has the immortal Nile and it has skilled labor. How could it fall into the grip of such a crisis? (Adding very nervously) Well, brother, let Egypt come and take Libyan oil and give us the Nile. You would then see how Libya could manage to cultivate the land, feed the Arabs, confront the United States, and fight the Israelis. What a scandal!

'Imad: You are talking about what should be, but I am talking about present realities.

Mu'ammar: (Interrupting) Whoever is responsible for this situation must disappear. By God, we will never leave him alone.

'Imad: Camp David was not Husni Mubarak's doing. He inherited it, and he also inherited the two most dangerous things about Camp David. They are the Camp David economic class and the feeble Arab reaction to these agreements.

Mu'ammar: Why does he not reject Camp David? Why does he not wash his hands of it and tell the Israelis: I was not the one who signed the Camp David agreements with you. The Egyptian people have rid themselves of the man who did sign it.

'Imad: Well, let us assume for the sake of argument (Mu'ammar laughs as I say that) that tomorrow morning Husni Mubarak severs relations with Israel and abrogates Camp David. What attitude would you take then?

Mu'ammar: I would support him completely.

'Imad: You would support him, but what does that mean? Would you fight alongside him?

Mu'ammar: We would fight with him and share our livelihood and everything else with him, as did the immigrants [who accompanied the prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina] and supporters. (There the colonel dropped his second bombshell, sidestepping the original point in the course of the conversation). Brother 'Imad, if Husni Mubarak were to say, without announcing it publicly, that he was ready to meet Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to discuss ways of getting out of this mess, I would be ready to meet him, even if he said that he would abandon Camp David in 5 years' time.

'Imad: If Mubarak wished to do that, would he have to do it in writing and publicly, or could he send you such a letter secretly?

Mu'ammar: All I want him to do is send me a letter — it does not have to be made public — saying that he is prepared to meet me to discuss means of abandoning Camp David, even in 5 years, and to discuss means of joint cooperation to end Egypt's and the Arab nation's predicament, and also saying that he is against the Israelis and their American allies, who are enemies of the Arab nation. If that happened I would be willing to meet him anywhere he liked.

'Imad: You have never met Husni Mubarak personally.
Mu'ammar: How is that? He was an officer in the Egyptian Air Force. He often came to me in Tripoli, and I ordered the supply of missiles and other necessary equipment for him. I used to carry missiles to Egypt on my own shoulders — by God, on my shoulders until late in the morning.

'Imad: When did that happen?
Mu'ammar: During the Ramadan [October] 1973 war. I personally supervised the packing of the missiles. I put a parachute on my back and left for Egypt on 30 Ramadan 1973.

'Imad: (Interrupting) Where were you between 10 and 30 Ramadan, and what role did Libya play in the war?

Mu'ammar: (In extreme amazement) Well, there was a land-, sea-, and airlift. One end of the line of ships was in Egyptian ports and the other was in Libyan ports. Planes transported arms day and night. The Libyan-Egypt road was opened for daily transportation of arms.

'Imad: Could you, with complete honesty, tell me about your impressions of dealing with Husni Mubarak during that period?

Mu'ammar: I viewed him as a good man against the Israelis. He saw how they slaughtered his people in the Egyptian Army. I used to think that hostility to the Israelis ran in Husni Mubarak's blood because the man experienced war against them. In brief, I saw him as a sincere man eager to fight the enemy.

'Imad: If you were seriously in Husni Mubarak's place and had succeeded President al-Sadat as president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, what would you have done?

Mu'ammar: By God, I would tell the Israelis this: For the time being I do not intend to fight you. I am committed to a nation and a people. The people have killed the man who signed agreements with you. I am a part of a nation. When the entire Arab nation meets and decides to recognize you, Israel, then I will recognize you, but when the Arab nation says no to Israel then I am committed to that rejection. In Mubarak's place I would go to the Arabs and say: By God, my fate is linked to yours. If you want to recognize [Israel] then you must do it collectively, but if you do not want to recognize Israel then let me join you, and if Israel attacks me you must stand with me.

'Imad: So you would agree to a truce with Israel until a time when you could fight it.

Mu'ammar: A truce has existed between the Arabs and Israel since it was signed, but truce does not mean recognition. A truce is a temporary thing.

'Imad: Assuming that, as president of Egypt, you did make that decision and you severed relations with Israel, and supposing that Israel then declared a general mobilization in Sinai and war broke out, but the Arab nation did not support you in that war, what would you do then?

Mu'ammar: Why would the Arab nation not support me then?
'Imad: Because the Arab situation is bad.

Mu'ammar: I would be the first to support Mubarak if he announced a severance of relations and if the military situation deteriorated between him and Israel. Before he announces his decision Mubarak should contact us and say: Before I announce this serious decision and before we attack Israel, I want to submit the matter to you and ask what you, Mu'ammar, can give me? I want such and such (meaning economic and military aid here) from you, Mu'ammar.

If I tell him: Mubarak, I am not with you and will not support you, then he has the right to say: I have turned to the Arab nation but it did not support me, therefore I will pursue my previous policy. I say openly on the pages of your magazine that, if Mubarak severs relations with Israel, I will place all Libya's resources at his disposal.

'Imad: The Arab and international media have a certain image of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Mu'ammar is portrayed as someone who encourages terrorism and assassination. I therefore ask you directly, do you support the idea of using violence?

Mu'ammar: What violence?
'Imad: What they call revolutionary violence, that is, when someone assassinates someone else because he holds views contrary to his own. An example is what has been said about Libyan assassination squads killing members of the Libyan opposition.

Mu'ammar: I am against assassination, against terrorism, against hijacking, against holding innocent people, and against using hostages to get something in return.

'Imad: Have you said that to the Iranians?
Mu'ammar: What the Iranians do is their own business. I

cannot control the Libyan people people and their revolutionary committees if they want to liquidate some of them because "the ones abroad are terrorists." I cannot impose anything on the Libyan people.

'Imad: (Interrupting) I cannot believe that at all. I cannot believe that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi cannot prevent such things. The people are convinced of what you tell them. If you told them to stop the assassinations, they would stop them.

Mu'ammar: I will tell them to stop the assassinations, but I assure you that the Libyans are convinced that the ones who are abroad [members of the Libyan opposition] have been adopted by the U.S. intelligence and trained by it in terrorism and subversion, and have chosen armed action and must therefore be faced in the same way.

'Imad: What about the opposition which has not opted for armed action? Have you anything to say to them?
Mu'ammar: There is no such thing as oppostion. Opposition to whom?
'Imad: Let us say those who hold different views to yours.
Mu'ammar: Let them come to Libya and say what they want to say in the people's congresses.

'Imad: Who would guarantee that they would not be thrown in prison or sentenced to death upon their arrival at Tripoli or Banghazi Airport?

Mu'ammar: No. I guarantee that any person who returns to Libya and obtains a membership card for the people's congresses, and says what he wants to say, will not be harmed; but he should not tell them that he belongs to the opposition because I do hold no post that he can oppose me. If he disagrees with me, then let him express his views in the people's congresses or sue me in Libyan courts. Anyone who opposes now is in fact opposing not me but the people's congresses, which represent all the Libyan people. I guarantee that anyone wishing to return to Libya on this basis will not be arrested or harmed. You can ask any of these people to contact you and to tell you: I am returning to Libya.

You can then publish his name in *AL-MAJALLAH* and you can then ascertain for yourself that he will attend the people's congresses and play his role without any interference. What is important is that he play his role and express his opinion in the people's congresses. Anyone who wishes to call Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi names should not do so abroad. He should come and call me names in the people's congresses, and he will not be harmed.

'Imad: With regard to the question of violence and international violence, how true are the reports that speak of your support for the "Red Brigades," the Japanese "Red Army," and the "Irish Liberation Army" [as published] and your playing host to "Carlos" in Libya? Is this true? Did it happen? Did it not happen? Did it stop?

Mu'ammar: This is biased propaganda; this never happened. If the people talk about "Carlos" and Libya, why do they not talk about "Carlos" and other countries? Moreover, let met ask you, when did Carlos carry out an operation in the interest of Libya? Also, why do they not talk about the countries that support Carlos, give him shelter, and train his men? Also, what does Carlos do in Libya? With regard to the "Irish Army," I am with the "Irish Liberation Army" and believe in the justice of its cause.

'Imad: What about the reports that speak of payments of $900,000 to the Basque separatists?

Mu'ammar: I do not know the Basques at all. I am only for the liberation of Ceuta and Melilla because they are Arab islands and Spain must leave them immediately.

'Imad: It is said that you are the only person to have fooled French President Mitterrand. You have let him withdraw his forces from Chad, but you have not withdrawn the Libyan forces in return.

Mu'ammar: (Irritated) Brother, this is tendentious propaganda by the Americans. I did not fool him. On the contrary, when I met him I respected him very much and found that there is great potential for cooperation between us. We agreed to set up a Libyan-Greek-Syrian committee to carry out inspections in northern and southern Chad. In fact as a result of dealing with Mitterrand, I felt that he is a friend and is certainly not adopting any hostile attitudes.

'Imad: Some people wonder how you could have a military force in Chad and not have one in Lebanon?

Mu'ammar: We are prepared, provided they allow us, to move our forces in [to Lebanon]. But if I send my forces that were in Chad into southern Lebanon, will they accept that? Not a single Libyan soldier is allowed to enter southern Lebanon.

'Imad: Who would refuse?
Mu'ammar: (Laughing) The Arabs...the Arabs in Lebanon.
'Imad: There are no Arabs in Lebanon except Syria.
Mu'ammar: (Laughing louder) Syria is not Lebanon.
'Imad: My last question, why are you called "the world's most dangerous man"?

Mu'ammar: The United States understands that I am a man who knows his correct path, that I want to unite the Arab nation through the Palestine war, that I am hostile to imperialism and friendly with the socialist countries. My program destroys the U.S. imperialist program and makes me the number one enemy of the United States. I am "the world's most dangerous man" not because I am fighting, but because I am seeking to unite the Arab nation. The unity of this nation is the greatest danger to U.S. interests, because this area is a U.S. playground and the scene of its operations. If the United States loses the scene of its operations then it will be cut down to size. For this reason they are trying to win the sympathy of naive people by portraying me as a terrorist and the most dangerous man in the world.

'Imad: Does this irritate you or make you feel proud?
Mu'ammar: With respect to the governments and forces hostile to us, I feel proud to be the world's most dangerous man to them. But I am dismayed that such talk should mislead millions of simple people.

'Imad: Brother Mu'ammar, thank you for your patience, time, and magnanimity.

Al-Qadhdhafi Message to Arab Leaders on Sudan

LD250945 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0812 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Jan (JANA) — The brother commander of the revolution has addressed a message to kings and presidents of the Arab countries concerning the malpractices of Sudan's ruling regime which have gone beyond the boundaries of government responsibility. Here is the text of the message:

Sudan, which links the Arab nation and Africa and which we hoped would play a basic role in bolstering and strengthening the ties between the Arab and Islamic nation on the one hand and Africa on the other, has suppressed and terrorized the Sudanese people, and has become a hotbed for Zionist moves and a springboard for the continued Zionist aggression against the Arab nation, the last manifestation of which was the migration of the Falasha Jews via Sudan to the Zionist entity in the occupied territory.

The Sudanese regime has gone beyond all norms of logic and reason and beyond the boundaries of government responsibility. The Sudanese people now live in a choking climate under the aegis of a regime which justifies the shedding of the blood of innocent people as an end in itself. This is carried out every day with unlimited ruthlessness, thereby attributing to Islam things that do not belong, defiling its teachings and tolerant principles. The whole world now looks aghast at the practices of the Sudanese regime as are extremely foolish and contradictory.

Numayri's actions remind us of 'Ali al-Mansur, who was given title of the one who rules by God's decree and who met his death because he went far beyond the limits of reason with his irresponsible actions. He deified himself and ordered people to kneel before him. He changed the people's days into nights and their nights into days: He who opened his shop in daytime was flogged and he who closed his shop at night was accused of disobedience. His policies were a collection of contradictions, oddities, and fads.

The conditions in Cairo under this ruler by God's decree are similar to Sudan's conditions under Numayri's regime: Contradiction, madness, hallucination, oppression, and terror have become the distinguishing characteristics of this oppressive regime, inspiring sympathy for the fraternal Sudanese people.

Our countries' link with the regime in Sudan through membership in the Arab League discredits the Arab nation before the world, for the nation is like one family and if a madman or a fool happens to emerge on the scene, he should be expelled from the family.

Because Sudan is a member of the Arab League and because the Sudanese people are our brothers, this irresponsible condition and these lunatic, foolish practices of the Sudanese regime, which so greatly wrong Islam and its teachings, have reflected badly on us and have consequently defamed all Arabs. Our continued recognition of the regime in Khartoum which has lost all credibility is indeed disgraceful.

In view of the low level the Sudanese regime has reached, we should cooperate with the fraternal Sudanese people to save them from the grip of this unjust regime, or work for the isolation of this regime which has wronged Arabism and Islam by severing our relations with it as the minimum measure.

God's peace, mercy, and blessings be with you.

Economy Minister Visits Spain, Meets Counterpart

For Madrid coverage of the visit to Spain by Economy Minister Musa Ahmad Abu Furaywah and his meeting in Madrid with his Spanish counterpart, Miguel Boyer, see the Spain section of the 25 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

MAURITANIA

Senegalese Foreign Minister Leaves for Home

LD242217 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The Senegalese foreign affairs minister and accompanying delegation left the capital this evening after their reception this morning by Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] and president of the republic. The delegation handed a message from the Senegalese president, Abdou Diouf, to the president concerning existing bilateral relations.

The Senegalese minister was seen off at the airport by Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the CMSN and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; advisers to the minister; and the head of the Africa department at the Foreign Ministry.

On leaving the capital, the Senegalese guest praised the results of his visit to our country. He also praised the excellent relations existing between Mauritania and the Senegal.

Army Chief Visits France, Meets Hernu, Counterpart

For Paris AFP coverage of the visit to France by Army Chief of Staff Colonel Ould 'Abdallah and his meeting with French Defense Minister Charles Hernu and French Armed Forces Chief of Staff Jeannou Lacaze, see the France section of the 24 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

MOROCCO

RISALAT AL-UMMAH: Maghreb Summit Scrapped

LD241953 Rabat MAP in English 1249 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat, Jan 24 (MAP) — "The Arab mediations and contacts held recently between the states of the Arab Maghreb came to a conclusion setting aside the holding of a Maghreban

summit gathering Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Mauritania as initially proposed by Tunisia, and opting rather for a Moroccan-Algerian summit," wrote this Thursday's *RISALAT AL-UMMAH* daily, organ in Arabic of the Constitutional Union (Liberal).

The daily, in an exclusive article, indicated that this would be the second Moroccan-Algerian summit since President Chadli Bendjedid came to power. The first summit meeting was held at the Moroccan-Algerian borders on 26 February 1983.

The daily, quoting well-informed sources, outlined that Saudi Arabia was among the countries advocating the holding of a two-member summit, saying that such a summit would defuse the tension which recently escalated to such a point that the military solution appeared to be the unavoidable alternative. This worrying situation led the countries of the Maghreb to undertake intensive contacts that included Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya, the paper wrote.

The same sources, the daily went on, affirmed that a five-member summit would have encountered serious difficulties as the agenda would have been axed around one item: the Sahara issue, while a Moroccan-Algerian summit has several chances of success, more especially so as Morocco has publicly reaffirmed her willingness to start dialogue (with Algeria) without any prerequisites on the summit's agenda.

It is to be recalled that the Sahara issue was the focus of the talks Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Amir 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held with Algerian officials during his recent state visit to Algeria.

On the other hand, Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi conveyed Tuesday in Tripoli to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi a message from President Habib Bourguiba winding thus Tunisia's direct contacts with all the states of the Maghreb as the Tunisian envoy had earlier visited Algeria, Mauritania, and Morocco. [sentence as received].

Tindouf Judicial Seminar Postponed

LD241557 Rabat MAP in English 1300 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat, Jan 24 (MAP) — The Movement of the Natives of the Former Spanish Sahara (Aosario) announced in a communique that it has decided to postpone to February the international judicial seminar on concentration camps in Tindouf at the request of a number of European parliamentarians and jurists who are to participate in the seminar initially scheduled for the end of this month.

This postponement, the Aosario precised, would enable participants to complete research and files in the field which deals with the violation of human rights and usurpation of humane principles for hegemonistic ends.

Tindouf Closed Off

LD241601 Rabat MAP in English 1305 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat, Jan 24 (MAP) — Algerian authorities have forbidden their nationals access to the town of Tindouf without a special authorization, reported Wednesday the *ITTIHAD AL-ISHTIRAKI* daily, mouthpiece of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (Social-Democrat).

The daily precised that Tindouf is now isolated and closed even to the inhabitants of the area. The town, it is to be recalled, shelters the mercenaries of the so called "Polisario" (an Algerian-backed guerrilla movement fighting Morocco for control over the former Spanish Sahara).

Opposition Leader Refuses Role in New Cabinet

LD251043 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0720 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat, 25 Jan (KUNA) — 'Atif Awdah dispatch: The Moroccan opposition leader, Abderrahim Bouabid, has stated that the government's economic options prompted his party not to participate in the new Cabinet to be formed shortly in Morocco.

Bouabid, who is the first secretary of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces [USFP] Party — the opposition party — was speaking in an interview with KUNA. He described these options as grave and said they will only lead to continued deterioration of the country's economic conditions. He added that they affect such vital sectors as education and health.

Bouabid strongly attacked the IMF blaming it for the deteriorating economic conditions in Morocco. He said that in its 1985 budget, the government responded to IMF demands that Morocco settle its external debts.

Bouabid said that the new budget favors the private sector at the expense of the public and semipublic sectors and tries to transform them into private companies in response to the new tendency which calls for absolute liberalism. He added that this will end in increasing unemployment in all sectors including the university graduates' sector.

He said that it is difficult for his party to go along with such a policy as it conflicts with the programs of the party. Because of this the party leadership sent an official note to the king informing him that it will not take part in the new government, for it would be false for the USFP to participate on the basis of a program that conflicts with its objectives.

Bouabid affirmed, however, that his party's position on internal issues does not prevent it from supporting the king's call for national unity regarding the defense of the Sahara. He added that he sees no conflict between the performance of a national duty and the continuation of opposition, affirming that his party is ready to carry out all tasks entrusted to it by the king, be it on the level of Moroccan diplomacy or otherwise. He also affirmed that his party will remain in the opposition until it realizes the objectives and principles for which it struggles.

Bouabid renewed his call for the creation of a body to supervise the defense of the Sahara, pointing out that Moroccan diplomacy has failed to achieve its objectives as compared with military achievements. He added that the king has the authority to determine the form of such a body.

As to whether his party agrees to work only in the diplomatic field as far as the next government is concerned, Bouabid said it is difficult for his party to accept this, adding that it is our duty to carry out all assignments. He said his party is prepared to work as ambassadors or envoys to any Arab or international region.

As to Sahara crisis, Bouabid said that Rabat and Algeria are still at the stage of consultations, and that there is a common desire to avoid a rift leading to confrontation. However, he added that Morocco and Algeria are now face to face. He accused Algeria of acting for the Polisario Front in its formal foreign contacts. This means that the disagreement is between Algeria and Morocco — king, parties and people.

Bouabid disclosed the existence of Arab diplomatic efforts from Tunisia and Saudi Arabia to conciliate between the Moroccan and Algerian views regarding a just settlement, which in his opinion continues to remain the referendum.

The leader of the Moroccan opposition has urged the Arab League to intervene and organize the referendum in the Sahara. He wondered: "Why does the Arab League not play some role in this Arab crisis since no one knows what will happen when matters and relations reach a dangerous level and no one knows how to emerge from the crisis." Bouabid blamed Algeria for the failure of the Maghreb summit as it insisted on the presence of the Saharan Republic as the sixth state.

On the question of his party responding to a previous invitation from the Algerian FLN, Bouabid replied that this depends on improved conditions, stressing that his party is always ready to play a role to continue relations between the two countries, affirming that Morocco does not want a rift nor a military confrontation with Algeria, but is ready to defend its land if the matter develops militarily.

The leader of the opposition announced that a delegation from his party will visit Spain shortly to hold talks with the Spanish Socialist Party about the two occupied towns of Ceuta and Melilla. Bouabid said that there are opinions inside the ruling Spanish Socialist Party and in other organizations that it is illogical to hold on to the two towns as geographically, politically, and economically they belong to Morocco. He underlined the fact that his party is prepared to visit the two towns and reassure the settlers about their interests. He said the two towns constitute an economic burden on the Spanish economy, Spain derives no benefit from them, and Spanish merchants live on Morocco's back in smuggling. He added that with the solving of the Gibraltar crisis — his party supports the Spanish Government in its demand for the return of the colony of Gibraltar — Spain should realize that what was feasible at the beginning of the 17th century is not in the 20th century.

Bouabid supports the idea of holding an international peace conference with the participation of the United States, the USSR, and some European countries to discuss the Palestine question. He said such a conference will help find a solution to meet the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He accused the United States and Israel of obstructing this conference and affirmed that the West European countries are unable to bring pressure to bear on what he calls the American giant.

He referred to the recent U.S.-Soviet meeting on armaments and said this is a positive step. He called for the inclusion of the Middle East crisis and the Iraq-Iran war in the dialogue between the two superpowers.

Bouabid affirmed that as regards the Arab-African union between Libya and Morocco the U.S. Administration has come to realize, following Morocco's clarifications, that it should refrain from adopting a hostile stand toward this union. He added that the atmosphere has begun to calm down.

Bouabid denied that there was any intention to create introduce changes in the party's Political Bureau. He added that the Central Committee and the Executive Committee have the authority to decide whether there is any need for step in accordance with party regulations. Rumors have been rife about a possible change at the top of the party's leadership.

Concerning the "dissenters" from the party, Bouabid said that that chapter has been closed and the dissenters have no connection with the party. They are free to set up a new political body and the field is open before them for political struggle and fight. Bouabid asked "whence did these come, particularly as they have not participated in the founding of the party or in any other matter?" He added that "we are not the first party that was exposed to marginal internal problems."

It is recalled that some members of the party led by Abderrahman Amrou, who is now serving 3 years in prison following a battle which took place at the headquarters of the USFP in Rabat, have dissented. Bouabid concluded by saying that these people have no room under the laws of the USFP and called on them to form their own politicaly body.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Says 1,000 Moroccan Troops 'Out of Action'

LD242242 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Western Sahara: Several breaches have been made along a front more than 15 km long in the so-called new wall of protection, and more than 1,000 Moroccan soldiers have been put out of action. This is the toll taken by Saharan fighters during the first two weeks of this month. The Saharan Information Ministry stresses that the Saharan fighters control the area of Mahbes in North Dakhla in the south and daily harass enemy positions.

Communique on Polisario Talks With French PSU

LD241826 Algiers APS in English 1132 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, 24/1 (APS) — The United Socialist Party PSU hails the admission of the Sahraoui Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) within the OUA "and success led on the ground by the Sahraoui combatants against the Moroccan Army of occupation", and invited France to recognize the SADR.

In a communique released here at the end of talks between Mr Ismael Fadhel, the Polisario Front representative to France and Mr Bernard Rainel, Politburo member of the French Socialist Party, the PSU "renews its support for the Polisario Front in its fight for self-determination and independence". He estimated "necessary the recognition of the Sahraoui Arab Democratic Republic by the French Government and considered that an end should be put to the arms supply to Morocco which uses them against the Sahraoui people". The French Unified Socialist Party "accepted the invitation of the Polisario Front [to] visit the Western Sahara."

ETHIOPIA

FAO Massive Food Drop To Begin 26 January

NC251141 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Rome, Jan 25 (AFP) — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is to begin a massive operation tomorrow to parachute-drop food aid to isolated famine-stricken regions of northern Ethiopia, the FAO said in a statement released today at its Rome headquarters.

British and West German Hercules transport aircraft will take part in the week-long operation, which should allow aid to reach 175,000 people, the statement added.

Eritrean Appointments, Unification Talks Noted

LD241428 Kuwait KUNA in English 1035 GMT 24 Jan 85

[By Imad Ajami]

[Text] Beirut, Jan 24 (KUNA) — The Eritrean revolution groups have chosen 'Uthman Saleh Sebi as their general commander after 45 days of continuous meetings, an urgent despatch from Khartoum said here Thursday.

The message received by KUNA office here said the election of Sebi is a consolidation of "the Arab line" within the Eritrean revolution.

The Eritrean National Council which ended its conference, started last December 10, elected a new 15-member executive committee headed by Sebi who became the commander of the Eritrean Liberation Front (the unified group).

Three Eritrean fronts, the Eritrean Liberation Front, the popular liberation front which Sebi is heading; the Eritrean Front, the revolutionary committee headed by 'Abd al-Qadir Jilani; and the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council headed by 'Abdallah Edris, have recently started a unification dialogue, backed by Arab countries, particularly Arab Gulf states.

The new leader of the unified group in a telephone call with KUNA expressed gratitude for Sudan for hosting some half a million Eritrean refugees, and for Saudi Arabia for its effort which has been crowned by the unification of the three Eritrean groups.

The Eritrean leader stressed that the Eritrean people and revolution will escalate efforts and the military and political struggle until the liberation of Eritrea (the group that refused to join the unification efforts) to start negotiations with the unified group so as to unify all Eritrean ranks who are fighting Ethiopia for the independence of Eritrea.[sentence as received]

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea is a Marxist organization that does not believe in the Arabism of Eritrea and bans its fighters and local residents to speak Arabic.

The Front has also stopped its military operations against Ethiopia under the pretext that the new regime of Addis Ababa is a Marxist one, and engaged with the Ethiopian Government in a series of talks that achieved no positive results.

Eritrean sources disclosed in another message that the Eritrean National Council had elected Youhans Zara Mariam as its chairman and lawyer 'Ali Brahtu as deputy chairman.

'Abdallah Edris was chosen first deputy chairman for the executive committee and 'Abd al-Qadir Jilani as second deputy chairman.

Sebi said in his telephone call with KUNA that airlifting of the Ethiopian Jews "Falashas" to Israel is "an Ethiopian-Zionist conspiracy that exposed the close and continued cooperation between the two regimes."

Sebi called for urgent assistance for the Eritrean refugees on the Sudanese-Eritrean borders who are suffering famine and Eritrean war of liquidation, and said this aid should be sent through the Eritrean Red Crescent.

He disclosed that the new executive committee is holding an open session as of today to explore the best methods for achieving the complete unification of the three Eritrean groups within the new framework.

EPLF Statement cites Israeli-Ethiopian 'Alliance'

EA241626 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The airlifting of the Ethiopian Falashas to Palestine is the full responsibility of the Abyssinian regime and part of a military and political alliance between Abyssinia and the Israelis. This was contained in a statement issued by the office of the EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] in Mogadishu today.

The statement added that the Abyssinian-Israeli alliance was aimed at intensifying the hatred of the Abyssinians and Israelis of the Arab peoples. The statement went on to say that Israel supports Abyssinia's genocide campaigns against the peoples of Eritrea, Western Somalia and Tigre, and its provocations against neighbors such as Somalia and Sudan.

The EPLF statement said the Abyssinian-Israeli alliance is against the cause of the Palestinian people whose land is being used for the settling of people from Abyssinia. The Falashas who are being airlifted to Palestine undergo military training so that they can participate in Israel's wars against Palestinians. The EPLF finally condemned the settling of the Abyssinian Falasha Jews on Palestinian land, which violates the rights of peoples. It strongly condemned the alliance between Abyssinia and Israel, the aim of which is to perpetrate expansionism and to cause provocation.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Interviewed by Nigerian Paper on RSA

EA242107 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — President Nyerere has said the South African regime does not want to abide by the nonaggression agreement signed with Mozambique since it is intent on the downfall of the Mozambican Government. Mwalimu Nyerere, who is OAU chairman and chairman of the Frontline States in the liberation of southern Africa, said that for this reason the Boer regime began violating the agreement even before it was signed. President Nyerere said this in an interview with the Nigerian newspaper, *THE GUARDIAN*, held at State House in Dar es Salaam.

Mwalimu said that since the South African regime's main desire is to topple the governments in Mozambique and Angola, it would continue to violate the Nkomati Agreement. He said the intention of the Boers is to have puppet regimes in both countries. The OAU chairman said that instead of honoring the Nkomati Agreement, African countries must think of ways of assisting Mozambique, which is under great pressure from the activities of guerrillas in the country who are supported by the South African regime.

Government To Release 4 Portuguese Nationals

EA241603 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The government has decided to set free four Portuguese nationals who were arrested in August last year in connection with various acts aimed at endangering the country's security.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dar es Salaam today said the people have been ordered to return home and they will leave tomorrow accompanied by Ambassador Fernando (Reino), special envoy of President Ramalho Eanes.

The statement said the four were arrested following information that they were spying on behalf of Mozambican terrorists and were in Tanzania to try to establish centers which would have been used by the terrorists to carry out acts of sabotage against the Mozambican Government across the border of these two countries.

The statement said the decision to release the four had come after a personal request of President Ramalho Eanes to President Nyerere and also on humanitarian grounds.

In the statement the government also expressed the hope that the Portuguese Government will take steps to restrain its nationals from intriguing to threaten the independence, rights, and security of countries in southern Africa.

Regional Commissioner Testifies in Treason Trial

LD250014 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Ndugu John Mhaville, today told the high court how he received information on an attempt to kill the president of the United Republic and to overthrow the government.

Giving evidence before Chief Justice Ndugu Nassoro Mzavas, as the sixth witness in the treason case facing 19 people, Ndugu Mhaville said he was told by Lieutenant Idi Stambuli how the second accused, Captain Christopher Kadego, and his group had prepared themselves to overthrow the government. He said Lieutenant Stambuli informed him that Kadego and his group arranged to kill the president in a church by using seven machine guns in their attempt, which would have been carried out between December 1982 and January 1983. At that time Ndugu Mhaville was party secretary and Arusha regional commissioner.

The witness alleged that after he was briefed on the incident on 14th December 1982, he informed the head of national security in the region, Ndugu (Kina), so that he could take immediate action by informing the director of national security at the headquarters in Dar es Salaam. He said later Ndugu (Kina) told him after midnight that a report on the incident had already reached the national security headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

Ndugu Mhaville continued to give his evidence. He told Lieutenant Stambuli to contact Kadego at a venue agreed upon and later informed him of the venue the following day. However, Ndugu Stambuli could not contact Captain Kadego, who had by then left the guest house where they met on the first occasion.

On cross examination by Kadego's defense lawyer, Ndugu Murtaz Lakha, the witness alleged that he did not follow up the incident as he had already informed the country's security machinery through the national security head in Arusha region. Earlier, lawyer Lakha on cross examining Ndugu Mhaville said the witness did not appropriately carry out his duties even after he was transferred to Dar es Salaam in January when the coup attempt would have taken place.

Ndugu Mhaville's evidence at times contradicted his written statement since he told the court that the reasons for the attempted coup were lack of transport for the army, unsatisfactory food and poor uniforms. In his statement on 20th July, 1983, the witness claimed that Lieutenant Stambuli told him that the reasons given by Kadego included the scarcity of essential commodities in the country as a result of poor leadership. The trial has been adjourned until tomorrow when the prosecution will call more witnesses.

KUNA: U.S. Implicated in Treason Trial

LD241959 Kuwait KUNA in English 1146 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam, Jan 24 (KUNA) — The treason trial involving 14 army officers and five civilians charged with plotting to assassinate President Julius Nyerere and overthrow the government continues Thursday with little new developments.

During Wednesday's hearing, the court learnt of details of the plan to murder Nyerere. Prosecution witness, Lt Augustine Pancras Ndejembi told the court that the plotters were to use a tank brigade to overthrow the government. They were to kill the president by downing his aircraft on Christmas day, 1982. However, Nyerere did not return here at that time as planned.

According to Ndejembi the U.S. Government had promised to help the traitors with oil supplies sufficient for one year, and would make U.S. Navy ships available.

OAU Foreign Ministers To Convene in Arusha
AB251130 Dakar PANA in English 1057 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 25 Jan (POOL-NA/PANA) — Foreign ministers of member states of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) will meet Friday in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha to examine "the economic perspectives for Africa in 1985.

Radio Tanzania quoting the executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Prof Adebayo Adedeji, said the meeting, which will last five days, will be presided over by Tanzanian President Nyerere, current chairman of the OAU.

The OAU decided at its 20th summit held in mid-November last year in Addis Ababa to convene this year an extraordinary summit devoted to economic problems.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Summons MPR Central Committee for 28 Jan

AB241928 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1720 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Jan (AZAP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, has just summoned the Central Committee to an extraordinary session on Monday, 28 January 1985, at the People's Palace, according to a statement by the Office of the Central Committee which was handed to AZAP on Thursday.

To this end, all Central Committee members absent from the capital are requested to return to Kinshasa at the latest on Sunday, 27 January 1985. The Office of the Central Committee also calls on the civilian and military authorities to assist such members of the organ to return to the capital for the sixth extraordinary session of the Central Committee. Here is the full text of the presidential ordinance summoning the extraordinary session of the central committee:

Ordinance No 85-046 of 24 January 1985 on the summoning of an extraordinary session of the MPR Central Committee:

The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, considering in particular Articles 36, 45 and 60, and considering the Standing Regulations of the Central Committee, in particular Article 32, orders:

Sole Article: The Central Committee of the MPR is hereby summoned to an extraordinary session on Monday 28 January 1985.

Issued in Kinshasa on 24 January 1985

[Signed] Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga

Reportage on Israeli Business Group, Relations

Mobutu To Visit Israel

AB241230 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1930 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 Jan (AZAP) — First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo and Israel's Ambassador Itzhak Sarfaty spoke of the excellent relations between Zaire and Israel during a courtesy call that the Israeli diplomat paid yesterday on the head of the Executive Council.

Mr Sarfaty described these relations as privileged. To substantiate this, he cited the visit which President Mobutu will make to Israel in the near future, as well as the visits which many Israeli figures including President Herzog have made to Zaire since the resumption of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

The Israeli diplomat noted that bilateral relations are not limited to mere diplomatic contacts but cover many fields including the economic sector. One of the manifestations of these relations is the presence in Kinshasa of Mr Tamman, an Israeli businessman, who plans to embark on several activities in Zaire at the request of President Herzog. Mr Tamman's mission is part of a comprehensive scheme aimed at further strengthening relations between the two countries.

Mobutu Hosts Party

AB241104 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1031 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Jan (AZAP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko hosted a party from 2000 to 2130 on Wednesday in the garden of his Camp Tshatshi residence in honor of Leon Tamman, the ultra-wealthy Jewish businessman, who has just signed with the Executive Council a draft agreement involving $400 million worth of investments in various projects in Zaire.

Group To Invest $400 Million

AB241751 Paris AFP in French 1330 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 Jan (AFP) — About $400 million will be invested in Zaire by an Israeli industrial group belonging to Leon Tamman, Zairian Information Minister Sakombi Inongo announced on Wednesday afternoon. The Tamman Group, the minister indicated, made the investment pledge in a draft agreement it signed on the same day with the Zairian Government. Negotiations had been going on in Kinshasa and in Stockholm to this effect since last December.

Under the draft agreement, the Israeli group will participate up to 40 percent in three Zairian companies, with the remaining 60 percent of the capital belonging to the Zairian state. The companies are the National Airline Company "Air Zaire," the Zairian Shipping Line (CMZ), and the Central Medical-Pharmaceutical Company (DCMP).

The Tamman Group also wants to participate up to 60 percent, and the Zairian state up to 40 percent, in the establishment of a pharmaceutical products factory, a forest exploitation company, and a timber processing factory, Mr Sakombi pointed out.

According to the ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY (AZAP), which says in a short commentary that the amount is the largest ever invested in Zaire since its independence, an agreement was signed with the same group for financing projects relating to communications, notably in the radio and television field.

AZAP Comments on Tamman Agreement

AB251010 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0742 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Commentary]

[Text] Kinshasa, 25 Jan (AZAP) — In his inauguration speech on 5 December 1984, the founding chairman warned the MPR militants against the temptation to mark time in the face of the efforts underway, and reminded them that manna was supplied by Heaven only once.

As a matter of fact, those who enjoyed it in the desert did not sit back with arms folded awaiting another manifestation of

providence. On the contrary, this direct intervention of God in wanting to save them from death gave them fresh strength to overcome want of food through hard work. Heaven helps those who help themselves. Those men understood this. Today, [words indistinct] rigor and evidence have eventually convinced the most skeptical partners. The draft agreement signed with the Tamman Group is new proof of this.

This profitable contract, concretized in a preliminary agreement on investments totalling $400 million, is another illustration of Zaire's ever growing credibility among its partners, a credibility which the IMF has acknowledged in particularly flattering words.

The Tamman Group has not dropped manna upon our country, as one might think. It only wants to render its contribution and to help Zaire to carry on with its efforts at building a modern and prosperous society. There is no doubt that Zaire's valiant people, who have already proved it in the past, will make the best use of this financial asset, which has broken all previous records of investments in Zaire since independence.

Indeed, the financial contribution of the Tamman Group is not a gift. No one would think that unless he is naive. However, for such a great industrialist as Leon Tamman, who has immense experience in business, to make the decision to pour money into such a vast operation with inevitable risks, we must concede that the beneficiary country has the [words indistinct] to meet the challenge [passage indistinct]

Transport Strike Paralyzes Goods Traffic

AB250805 Paris AFP in English 0338 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 25 (AFP) — State transport workers in Zaire have paralysed goods traffic after striking five days ago for pay rises.

Reliable sources here reported Thursday that Matadi, the country's only ocean port, was at a standstill. Freight movements on the Matadi-Kinshasa railway had halted, as had river traffic. Some 45 percent of Zaire's copper exports use those routes. National Transport Office (BNATRA) figures for 1983, the latest available, showed that Matadi handled 1,250,000 tonnes and the railway 1,360,000. Kinshasa River Port processed 645,000 tonnes, and overall goods movements on the river system totalled 847,000 tonnes.

The sources said the ONATRA management had promised substantial wage rises averaging 40 percent if the government agreed. But under the terms of an International Monetary Fund economic recovery package, the government would permit only a 25 percent rise in two stages this year. An authoritative source said the government was anxious to maintain its pressure against inflation, which was brought down to less than 20 percent last year from 100 percent in 1983.

CAPE VERDE

Pereira Views Negotiations on Namibia

AB232124 Paris AFP in French 1821 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Praia, 23 Jan (AFP) — Cape Verdian President Aristides Pereira believes that the situation is not yet appropriate to resume the negotiations between Angola and South Africa, saying that these negotiations have broken down since last December. It is recalled that President Pereira served as an intermediary between the Angolans, the South Africans and the Americans during the five meetings held in Cape Verde in 1982, 1983, and 1984.

"It is our duty to help in the negotiations aimed at Namibia's independence," President Pereira told AFP. "Meanwhile, the stands adopted by Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos and the Pretoria government have blocked the situation. The issues to be resolved are of course very complex. For our part, we are always prepared to facilitate the contacts."

Speaking on the drought which, like other Sahel countries, has affected Cape Verde for more than 10 years, President Pereira stressed that his country was succeeding in facing the problem by applying a policy of strict austerity and the judicious use of the small number of water wells available.

GHANA

OAU Liberation Committee To Attend Meeting

AB241547 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Fourteen out of 23 members of the OAU Liberation Committee have so far accepted the invitation to attend the committee's meeting, which begins in Accra next Monday. It is expected that the other members will respond to the invitation by the weekend.

The director of the African and OAU Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr James Emissah, told the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, GBC, in an interview today that an advanced team from the General Secretariat is expected in Accra this afternoon in connection with the conference. He said there will also be delegates from the three liberation movements in Africa, the Southwest African People's Organization of Namibia, the African National Congress, and the Pan-Africanist Congress, both of South Africa.

EEC Auditors 'Impressed' at End of Tour

AB241535 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The European Economic Community, EEC, may increase its grants to Ghana this year following the satisfactory disbursement of previous grants. This was disclosed in Accra by the leader of a team of auditors from the community's headquarters in Brussels, Mr Patrick (Everett), after a 10-day tour of duty in the country. He said he has been impressed about how EEC's grants have been disbursed within the past 2 years despite unfavorable economic and climatic conditions. Mr (Everett) attributed this success to the sanity injected into the management of the economy through the economic recovery program.

He noticed that with further better management skill, the country can solve its problems.

Mr (Everett) called for patience and stability to ensure continuous EEC participation in projects in the country.

According to Mr (Everett), the delegation visited all the 10 EEC-sponsored projects in the country.

He announced that another delegation is expected in Accra next month to plan programs within which the committee's loans for this year will be utilized. The delegation has since left for Lome.

Paper Suspended for 'Mischievous' Journalism

AB241842 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The Ministry of Information has observed with concern that of late a weekly newspaper, the *GHANAIAN VOICE*, has been distorting news and in many other instances has fabricated stories which are completely without foundation and substance. The ministry has taken a very serious view of this and cannot allow such mischievous brand of journalism, which is prejudicial to the national interest, to continue.

A statement issued by the under secretary for information today said the ministry has accordingly ordered the immediate suspension of the publication of the *GHANAIAN VOICE* till further notice.

GUINEA

AFP: Military School Director Assassinated

AB241925 Paris AFP in French 1851 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Dakar, 24 Jan (AFP) — Captain Mansare, director of Guinea's military school, was reportedly assassinated on 17 January by a soldier, it was learned from informed sources in Dakar on Thursday [24 January].

No details, however, were given on the reasons or the circumstances of this assassination which was said to have taken place within the Alpha Yaya Camp, situated on the outskirts of Conakry and not far from the airport, according to the sources.

It will be recalled that it was from the Alpha Yaya Camp that the 3 April 1984 coup was launched.

Captain Mansare was neither a member of the Military Committee for National Redress (CMRN), the highest organ in the country since the coup that overthrew Sekou Toure's regime, nor a member of the Armed Forces headquarters.

Ordinance on Development Taxes Issued

AB242028 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 24 Jan 85

["Ordinance No 021 CMG 85" signed by Colonel Lansana Conte, president of the Republic of Guinea, in Conakry on 24 January — read by announceer]

[Text] Ordinance No 021 CMG 85: The president of the Republic, in view of the army takeover on 3 April 1984; in view of the proclamation of the second Republic; in view of Ordinance No 329 of 18 December 1984 on the nomination of members of the Cabinet of the president of the Republic, and in accordance with the proposal by the minister of economy and finance, orders:

Article 1 — Additional taxes for the development of prefectures are to be included in the budgets of these prefectures.

Article 2 — The tax for the development of prefectures must be paid by any person living in the Republic of Guinea. It is to be paid once a year by each taxpayer at his usual place of residence.

Article 3 — Exempted from the payment of these taxes for the development of prefectures are the needy — and by needy one means all persons without financial means due to infirmity; persons who already pay tax on their salaries, allowances, emoluments, pensions, and life annuities; and people over 60, children under 14 years of age, pupils and students.

Article 4 — The tax amounts to 700 sylis.

Article 5 — The tax for the development of prefectures is to be recorded in the yearly assessment books of the Revenue Department.

Article 6 — The tax for the development of prefectures will be divided in the following manner: 300 sylis for the development of districts; 100 sylis for the development of subprefectures; 100 sylis for the development of prefectures; 100 sylis for the payment of debts owed the National Bank for Agricultural Development, BNDA; and 100 sylis for subsidies to the prefectures.

Article 7 — The prefectures that have already repaid their debts to the BNDA will add their 100 sylis to their development allowance, thus increasing it to 200 sylis.

Article 8 — The post of secretary general in charge of finance has been abolished.

The prefects will henceforth assume the duties attached to this position.

Article 9 — All former arrangements contrary to the present ordinance have been abrograted, in particular Law No 011 APNTP 81 of 13 May 1981.

Article 10 — The present ordinance will be recorded and published in the official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Conakry on 24 January 1985 by Colonel Lansana Conte

Romania, Italy, USSR Envoys Visit Foreign Minister

AB242215 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The present state of cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Romania and our country was at the center of the discussions held this morning between Captain Facine Toure, our minister of state for foreign affairs and international cooperation, and His Excellency Ambassador Petru Despot. The Romanian ambassador reiterated to the Guinean foreign minister the support of the Romanian people and President Nicolae Ceausescu for the national revival action embarked upon by the Guinean people since 3 April 1984. He also informed Capt Facine Toure of President Nicolae Ceausescu's decision to send an important government delegation to our country. Our minister of state and the Romanian ambassador, who expressed satisfaction with the good relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries, jointly decided to hold the Guinea-Romania Joint High Commission meeting in March 1985.

Next, His Excellency Roberto Rosellini, the Italian ambassador and current chairman of the group of ambassadors of EEC member-countries, was received by the Guinean foreign minister. Capt Facine Toure and His Excellency Roberto Rosellini examined certain aspects of cooperation between Guinea and the EEC, especially in the cultural and consular spheres. Next they discussed bilateral relations, especially the ways and means of further training Guinean cadres. In this regard one may note that apart from the 200 agriculture technicians who benefitted from a training program in Italy, the aid program for the 1985-1986 academic year includes the training of another 150 people in the fields of public administration, diplomacy, professional teachers, and mechanical agriculture technicians. In addition, some postgraduate scholarships have been offered by Italy for the training of 30 veterinary doctors and agronomists.

Captain Facine Toure, who thanked Ambassador Roberto Rosellini for this aid in a field as precious as that of further training of cadres, reasserted the determination of the Guinean Government to do all in its power to maintain, expand and consolidate the good relations of fruitful friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries.

Finally, at 1000, Capt Facine Toure received His Excellency Vladimir Kitayev, USSR ambassador to Guinea. Bilateral relations were also discussed at this meeting.

His Excellency Vladimir Kitayev seized the opportunity to brief the Guinean foreign minister in detail about the present state and perspectives of the negotiations on the limitation of nuclear arms, and about other international issues. Capt Facine Toure expressed satisfaction with the friendship and the excellent relations of cooperation existing between our two countries and which are characterized by the aid the USSR has been giving to our people since 3 April 1984.

Moreover, he expressed the hope that all the efforts being made in the field of the search for and the maintenance of peace would at least contribute toward creating an atmosphere of true harmony and brotherhood among the peoples of the world .

IVORY COAST

Cameroonian President Biya Speaks on Arrival

AB231449 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Cameroonian President Paul Biya's statement on arrival in Yamoussoukro at the beginning of a 3-day official visit to Ivory Coast on 23 January 1985 — recorded]

[Text] Since I came to power in my country, it has been my wish to visit the Ivory Coast, a country that is traditionally a friend of my country, in order to contact President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, one of the prestigious and historic fathers of African independence and unity, to draw inspiration from his wisdom and his wide experience which is known all over the world. Moreover, I especially wanted to pay a deserving homage to the oldest of Africa's heads of state, to this charismatic leader whose political philosophy — based on tolerance, the spirit of dialogue, realism, political courage, and obviously with the participation of his people — has made the Ivory Coast thenation of peace, stability and prosperity that it is.

Our respective schedules did not allow us to realize this desire earlier. I am therefore very happy and satisfied to be in the Ivory Coast today, in this beautiful and modern town of Yamoussoukro. The Ivory Coast and Cameroon maintain solid friendly relations which have been based both on human activities and the imperatives of geography and history as well as identical political options. It is also true that with the passage of time and in spite of the economic and political disturbances that we have been going through, our countries have been able to count themselves among those which managed to preserve their achievements and were able to sustain their efforts to preserve their political situations as well as the development of their people. It is therefore vitally important for us to meet and consult with each other in order to further consolidate our relations of friendship, cooperation, and fraternal understanding.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the welcome accorded me here. Moreover, this demonstration of African hospitality — in which the Ivory Coast can legitimately take pride — is an additional testimony to the excellent relations existing between our two countries. Finally, I would like to convey to the Ivorian people the message of peace, friendship, and fraternity from the Cameroonian people. I hope this first visit to Ivorian soil and the discussions that will follow will contribute effectively to the further strengthening of the bonds of friendship and fraternal cooperation so fortunately existing between our two countries.

Commerce Minister Receives American Businessmen

AB232205 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] A group of American businessmen from Michigan, who are currently visiting our country, were received yesterday evening by the minister of commerce, Nicholas Kouandi Angba. These American businessmen have come to our country with the aim of establishing commercial ties between Michigan and our country, in order to strengthen the rather important trade ties between the Ivory Coast and the United States.

After his meeting yesterday evening with our American visitors, Nicholas Kouandi announced the forthcoming opening of a branch of the Ivorian Center for Foreign Trade in New York.

Court Returns Verdict in Logemad Case

AB241025 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 24 Jan 85 P 5

[Excerpts] The Abidjan Court of Appeals yesterday afternoon broke the suspense it had been maintaining for the past few weeks and returned its verdict in the second phase of the long Logemad [Civil Servants Housing Service] trial.

Apart from Simon Nandjui, former general manager of the Company for the Financial Management of Housing [Sogefiha], and Assoko Boutchi, the principals accused in the trial, namely Konan Ferrand, Gervais Kobenan Marc, Field, and Dable Kragbe Emmanuel, have had their 20-year sentences confirmed.

The Court of Appeals has overturned the 20-year sentence for Simon Nadjui on the charge of embezzlement of public funds.

However, he has been found guilty of acquiring "illegal benefits," for which he has been sentenced to 18 months in prison and fined 1.5 million CFA francs.

Since he has been detained for 16 months, he will now spend 2 more months in prison.

The Court of Appeals under Camille Hoguie has found Assouan Bogui Jean Baptiste and Akpali Fred Kouame Samson guilty of receiving illegal benefits and has sentenced them to 18 months in prison (as compared to the 9 months imprisonment initially given) and to a fine of 1.5 million.

The Court of Appeals has granted the Ivorian state 22 million CFA francs to be jointly paid by the three [as published] accused.

A committal order was issued against Assouan Bogui and Akpabli Fred Kouame.

The Court of Appeals has simply discharged Francois Konan Kouadio (initially sentenced to 1 year imprisonment and to a fine of 500 thousand CFA francs); Mrs Tope nee Kalilou Affiba (initially sentenced to 1 year imprisonment and to a fine of 500 thousand CFA francs); Diawara Kaka Ibrahima (initially sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and to a fine of 1.5 million CFA francs); Alfred Kacou Assemian (initially sentenced to 11 months imprisonment and a fine of 200 thousand CFA francs); and Assoko Boutchi, who was initially among the principalsaccused sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and a fine of 600 million CFA francs.

The counsels of Konan Ferrand, Field, Diouf, Dable, and Gervais may still lodge an appeal.

LIBERIA

Secom Accused of Partiality, Partisanship

AB232119 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The Special Elections Commission [Secom] has been accused of contradicting its own guidelines drawn to guide all political parties and presidential candidates in the forthcoming general elections in Liberia.

Today's edition of the *MIRROR* newspaper quotes the secretary general of the proposed National Integration Party, Counselor James Supuwood, as making specific reference to the guidelines in which, he said, Secom did not make mention of a deadline for registration of political parties. Counselor Supuwood was quoted by the paper as saying instead of the deadline a cut-off date on registration of parties was mentioned in the guidelines. He reportedly accused Secom of absconding [as heard] its role as a neutral body especially established to monitor the great transition presently going on. The counselor said the activities of Secom are reflecting some signs of partiality and partisanship, adding this is a good contravention of the decree which Secom brought into being.

Counselor Supuwood cautioned that even though Liberians are grateful for the first truly democratic experience (?permeating) in their national life now, they, as a people, stand unbenefitted if Secom continues to mar its neutral role with partisanship.

Redemption Day Commission Official Dismissed

AB241000 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The acting secretary general of the National Commission for Redemption Day Anniversary, Mr Louis Free, has been dismissed by the general chairman of the commission, Dr Harry F. Moniba. According to the LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY [LINA], Mr Free was dismissed for what were termed administrative irregularities involving the commission's funds. LINA quotes an Interim National Assembly release issued yesterday as saying Dr Moniba has ordered Mr Free to hand over the commission's properties to Mr (J.F.N. Briandt), who has been appointed as acting secretary general of the commission.

NIGER

Interim OAU Secretary General Arrives for Visit

AB242052 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Interim OAU Secretary General Peter Onu was received in audience by the chairman of the National Development Council, Mamane Oumarou, this afternoon. It will be recalled that it is within the framework of a tour of Sahel states that Mr Onu is visiting the countries seriously hit by drought and famine.

NIGERIA

Commerce Minister Outlines Economic Priorities

AB241320 Paris AFP in English 0956 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 24 (AFP) — The Nigerian Government's priorities include better control of industry, restriction of imports and replacement of imported goods by those produced locally, Minister of Commerce and Industries Mahmud Tukur said here.

In a briefing on the general situation of his ministry yesterday, Mr. Tukur said that the government was taking a larger share in industries essential to the national economy, such as the Volkswagen assembly plant in which the West German parent company has had majority holding up to now.

The minister said that the Lagos military administration had to undertake stricter management of its assets in the face of the falling revenue and soaring imports the country has experienced in recent years. He deplored the fact that servicing Nigeria's debts, which will cost $4.5 billion in 1985, was taking almost half the country's revenue in hard currency, restricting imports to only around $4 billion, compared with more than 20 billion in 1981. Mr. Tukur said that priorities had been fixed and this year Nigeria would spend $2.5 billion on importing raw materials for manufacturing industry and less than two billion on finished goods, including spare parts, baby food and medical supplies.

The minister said Nigeria wanted to maintain its level of industrial activity, and he did not rule out bilateral agreements with "friendly countries" to settle problems of debt repayment. The determining factor was no longer what Nigeria wanted but what money was available to pay for it, Mr. Tukur said. Industry could certainly spend less and produce more than current levels of output and consumption, he added.

Mr. Tukur also said that agreements with foreign trading partners which had been detrimental to Nigeria would also be revised. [Words indistinct] the granting of import licences, which have been approved to the tune of $1.3 billion so far, Mr. Tukur said the government was favouring industries essential for "survival," those employing large numbers of workers and those substituting domestic for imported goods.

Mr. Tukur also called for enhanced exports to Nigeria's neighbours (?under) regional agreements. The legal export of motor vehicles, textiles, steel or petrochemical products was an antidote to contraband, he said.

Bulgarian Prime Minister's Visit Previewed

AB241644 Lagos NAN in English 1640 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 24 (NAN) — The Bulgarian prime minister, Mr Grisha Filipov, is expected in Lagos tomorrow on a three-day official visit to Nigeria.

A programme of the visit released in Lagos yesterday shows that Mr Filipov will be received at Murtala Muhammed International Airport by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Maj Gen

Tunde Idiagbon. Maj Gen Idiagbon and the visiting prime minister will head the Nigerian and the Bulgarian delegations respectively in the talks to be held by both countries.

On Saturday, Mr Filipov will be received in audience by the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari. He will leave for home on Sunday after the signing of a joint communique between Nigeria and Bulgaria.

Mr Filipov, 65, became the country's prime minister in June 1981. Nigeria and Bulgaria established diplomatic relations in 1964.

A check by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) shows that more than 800 Nigerians are currently studying in Bulgaria, mainly in the fields of medicine, agriculture, engineering and architecture. A Bulgarian company constructed the National Theatre, Iganmu, Lagos, the Kaduna race course and the Ilorin sports stadium. Bulgarian firms are also involved in the design and construction of other projects in Bauchi, Kaduna, Plateau and Abuja.

The minister of the federal capital territory, Maj Gen Maman Vatsa, a poet, was awarded a medal named after the Bulgarian poet, Nikola Vaptsarov, when he (Vatsa) visited Bulgaria last year. A Nigerian arts exhibition and a Bulgarian cartoon exhibition were held in Sofia and Lagos respectively last year.

SENEGAL

Diouf To Leave for Bissau OMVG Summit

AB242205 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The president of the Republic will leave Dakar on Sunday, 27 January, at 1700 for Bissau where he will lead the Senegalese delegation to the conference of heads of state and government of the Gambia River Development Organization [OMVG]. The head of state will return to Dakar on Tuesday, 29 January, at 1645.

Final Communique Issued on Ghali's Visit

AB232219 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Senegal and Egypt have decided to revive their cooperation and explore other horizons. This was contained in the joint communique that was signed this morning between Ibrahim Fall, minister of foreign affairs, and his counterpart, Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, who has ended a few days' official visit to Senegal. The Egyptian ambassador to Dakar and the Senegalese ambassador to Cairo were present at the signing ceremony. Our reporter, Abdoulaye Dabo, has the details on the communique.

[Dabo] In the bilateral sphere, the need to consolidate and promote cooperation was underlined. The need to diversify it in accordance with the privileged political relations between the two parties, was also underlined.

On the OAU, Dakar and Cairo pledged to strive for the success of the forthcoming economic summit and the conference of nonaligned countries' ministers scheduled to take place in Luanda in September 1985.

In the continental sphere, the joint communique proposed dialogue and negotiations to end the various hotbeds. On southern Africa, the two parties considered that peace there would depend on Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council and an end apartheid in South Africa.

Senegal and Egypt also examined desert encroachment in the Sahel. They showed their desire to fight against this scourge. In this regard, the Egyptian party praised the initiative taken by President Abdou Diouf to convene a conference on drought and desert encroachment in the Sahelian countries in Dakar.

On Palestine and cooperation between Arab and African countries, they called for the strengthening of solidarity in order to achieve a united future.

As you are aware, there is no conflict between Egypt and Senegal, a fact Butrus Ghali refers to.

[Begin Ghali recording] The state of our relations is excellent and there is no dispute between us. Therefore, in this regard, my visit to Senegal signifies our common desire to develop and further strengthen relations between our two countries. We hope that the next visit [words indistinct] will give a new impetus to cooperation between Senegal and Egypt and promote discussions between our two governments. [end recording]

Romania To Participate in Iron Ore Mining

AB231533 Paris AFP in English 1512 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Dakar, Jan 23 (AFP) — Romania is to provide 150 million dollars along with technical assistance for Senegal's one-billion-dollar iron ore mining project, according to an official statement released here today.

Under an agreement signed early this month between the two countries, Romanian companies will help build a railway and a port to export ore produced by the Eastern Senegal Iron Ore-Mining Company (MIFERSO). Repayment of the 150-million-dollar loan will be assured through the lifting of 1.5 million tonnes of concentrated iron ore yearly from the mines, which are scheduled to produce 12 million tonnes per year. The construction cost of the port and railway is estimated at 770 million dollars. Senegal's as-yet-unexploited iron ore reserves are estimated at 337 million tonnes.

ANGOLA

Gabon Minister Arrives to Discuss Economic Ties

MB240926 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Etienne Moussirou, Gabonese minister for industries and state companies, arrived in Luanda early in the afternoon as the envoy of Omar Bongo, president of the Republic of Gabon. He was received on his arrival by Ismael Martins, Angolan minister of external trade, and by Dombele Bernardo, Angolan ambassador to Gabon. He brought a personal message from President Omar Bongo to the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The Gabonese minister told journalists at the airport that he has come to discuss the strengthening of bilateral economic cooperation with Angolan authorities. Etienne Moussirou said it is clear that existing political and diplomatic relations should be complemented in the economic area, which should not only include bilateral economic relations but also regional level cooperation through the economic community of the states of Central Africa.

Moxico FALA Commander Says Traffic Halted

MB241323 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Tjvt] The Moxico military commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] told a KUP reporter that the MPLA's activities in the region are being severely curbed due to the prompt and effective actions of the FALA.

Train and car traffic have stopped.

Most residents have fled to the bush, where they support UNITA.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano Receives Wisner for Talks in Maputo

MB241738 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] News which has just been received at our editorial newsdesk says that Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano received Frank Wisner, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, in Maputo this afternoon.

At the meeting, matters relating to bilateral cooperation were analyzed. Frank Wisner was today in Mabote, Inhambane Province, where he familiarized himself with the current situation that has been caused by the drought. According to statements made by the U.S. ambassador in Maputo, citing the administrator for Mabote region, the situation in the district is not good. However, it is on the verge of improving.

U.S. To Provide Emergency Food

MB231920 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The United States is to provide Mozambique with 40,000 tons of corn as emergency food aid. The consignment, worth $15 million, is due in Maputo in March this year.

The corn is part of a donation of 110,000 tons of food aid from the United States to Mozambique in this fiscal year.

An agreement concerning the donation was signed in Maputo this afternoon by the Mozambican minister in the presidency for economic affairs, Jacinto Veloso, and the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Frank Wisner.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, Mr Veloso said the agreement shows the solidarity and good understanding of the problems facing Mozambique by the U.S. Administration. He added that Mozambique will do its best to see that the aid is properly distributed in areas affected by the drought.

In response, Mr Wisner said the U.S. Government and the American people are all aware of the drought that Mozambique is facing, and efforts made by the Mozambican Government to reduce its effects. He said his country is determined to assist Mozambique and carry on the existing good relations.

Before the signing ceremony, Mr Wisner met Finance Minister Rui Baltazar and the governor of the Bank of Mozambique, Prakash Ratilal.

Mr Wisner is expected to fly to drought areas in Inhambane Province tomorrow.

Powerline to RSA Sabotaged 9 Km From Border

MB231949 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] The powerline from South Africa to Maputo was sabotaged again last night about 9 km from the border with South Africa.

A spokesman for Electricidade de Mocambique, the Mozambican electricity company, said the line was sabotaged at 2130 last night between the town of Moamba and the South African border town of Komatipoort. It is the sixth time that the powerline has been sabotaged near the border with South Africa since last October.

The line was never attacked before Mozambique and South Africa signed the Nkomati accord last March.

Meanwhile, Maputo City is receiving its supply from the local coalfire power stations.

Armed Forces Storm Camp, Kill 21 'Bandits'

MB241754 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The Mozambique Armed Forces deployed in Tete Province stormed and completely destroyed an armed bandits'camp on 17 January at Nhassica, about 35 km from Mandie region in Guro distict in Manica Province. During the operation, the FPLM gunned down 21 armed bandits and captured various pieces of military equipment, a military command headquarters source in Tete disclosed.

It should be recalled that last year our armed forces in Tete killed 356 armed bandits and captured 56 others. During that year, the FPLM in Tete destroyed 10 armed bandits' camps.

Maputo Cites U.S. Congressmen on RSA Violations

MB231853 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] American congressmen who recently visited Mozambique last Tuesday accused South Africa of continuing their support for the armed banditry, thus violating the nonaggression accord signed in Nkomati.

The armed bandits threatened to thwart efforts for aid to the people who are menaced with famine, Democratic Party representatives Senator Paul Sarbanes and Howard Wolpe said.

Wolpe found that the Mozambican Government is working well with U.S. officials and international aid organizations. The food shortage is today less serious than 1 year ago, when 50 people died in emergency centers every day, he added.

Sarbanes found South Africa's policy of destabilization of Mozambique similar to the policies carried out by South Africa with regard to other countries in the region, namely Angola and Namibia.

Sarbanes visited Mozambique together with Wolpe and another three Democratic Party representatives. Democratic Representative (Ted Way) in turn stated that workers in aid organizations told them that they often risk their lives due to armed bandit attacks.

They shoot and kill indiscriminately, (Ted Way) said.

Sarbanes added that the terrorists hamper the distribution of supplies and also prevent the population from planting.

Sarbanes stated that as everyone knew the armed bandits are receiving support from South Africa, despite the signing of the Nkomati Accord by South Africa and Mozambique last March.

The South Africans continue to give support to these elements, thus hindering Mozambique's capability to deal with its own problems and preventing foreign aid efforts, he added.

Although in smaller numbers, Mozambique's situation is as serious as the situation experienced in Ethiopia, he said.

The Democratic congressmen requested that President Ronald Reagan join the Congress in the revision of his policy with regard to South Africa, replacing the current constructive engagement policy with punitive sanctions.

The Congress also discussed other measures regarding Africa last Tuesday.

Democratic Senator John Glenn presented a resolution condemning South Africa for its denial of citizenship to the majority of the black population and for shoving that black majority into bantustans.

Furthermore, two Democratic Party representatives presented a proposal to award aid worth $628 million to Africa and Bangladesh.

NAMIBIA

24 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed by Security Forces

MB241355 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1328 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Windhoek, Jan 24, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia have shot dead 24 SWAPO insurgents in various skirmishes the last 13 days, bringing to 35 the number of insurgents killed since January 1, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. The security forces suffered no casualties.

In SWAPO action against civilians, an Ovambo-speaking man, Mr Joad Kasoma of Ruacana, was abducted on January 13 and later killed, the SWATF said in a statement. An unnamed Kavango civilian was killed in "in cold blood" by SWAPO terrorists on January 12, the statement added.

On January 20, SWAPO terrorists attacked the kraal of an Ovambo-speaking civilian, Mr Mihina Ngwela of Oshikuku, but no casualties were reported.

A handgrenade was used in the attack and 85 spent AK47 rifle shells were picked up on the scene.

The SWATF said SWAPO's indiscriminate "acts of terror" proved the organisation "has no regard for a peaceful solution to this country."

The SWATF called on the people of Ovambo to obey curfew rules imposed in the region in order to "guarantee the security of residents."

SOUTH AFRICA

Explosion in Johannesburg Injures Five

MB241639 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1637 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 24, SAPA — Five employees of a scrap metal merchant were injured in an explosion in central Johannesburg late this afternoon, police report.

All are blacks, four of them men. One of the men is believed seriously injured.

Asked about the cause of the blast police Lieutenant -Colonel Fred Bull commented at the scene: "I don't even want to speculate, but I don't think it was a bomb."

The blast, just after 5 pm, damaged the premises of United Metal Merchants in Marshall Street in the city centre, blowing out windows, destroying an internal wall and cracking an external wall, Colonel Bull said. He added that he did not think the cause of the blast would be known until tomorrow.

A sales rep, Mr Norman Shun, formerly of Durban, was driving past the building at the time. Having had experience as a lifeguard, he rushed inside to help and found the injured.

Mr Shun ripped off his shirt to bandage one of the injured's torn neck and wrist.

Interviewed topless afterwards he said he had seen gas bottles and batteries on the premises and believed it had been an industrial accident and not a bomb. He thought shrapnel had caused the injuries.

The owner of the firm was too shocked to speak to the press immediately.

Government Declaration of Intent Urged

MB250914 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 25 Jan 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Eight Steps to Hope"; boldface as published]

[Text] South Africa is on the edge of an abyss, economic and political. Warning signals increase: the collapsing rand, deep recession, the growing disinvestment campaign, U.S. disillusion with "constructive engagement," the government's insensitive handling of major issues, the apparent paralysis of will in the wake of a divisive new constitution. All too often, government handling of endemic dissent heightens hostility at home and abroad.

A country in turmoil, a government transfixed, a growing threat of international sanctions — is that really to be the story of our tomorrows?

Yes, unless there is urgent action.

Yes,There is a hopeful undercurrent too. As seldom before, Nationalists themselves are thinking the unthinkable. There is a questioning, questing mood. A Nationalist newspaper sends a journalist to Lusaka to interview the ANC. Dr Willem de Klerk publicly invites a rethink of fundamental Nationalist tenets. Committees burrow furtively into the entrails of hated Laws. Nationalists foresee the government talking to the ANC.

But this ferment is formless. Without shape, it will lead not so much to reform as erosion. It totally lacks dramatic impact.

One opposition leader after another has called for a Declaration of Intent. Such a declaration could galvanise the country — it is now beyond the philosophic or political reach of the government, if only it could find the courage.

Eight bold steps, announced simultaneously, are all that is needed.

These steps represent a logical extension, rather than a contradiction, of current verligte thinking. They will probably not satisfy the radical left or right. But they will transform the political path ahead.

Below is the declaration of intent we urge upon the government today as parliament reassembles. Implemented, it would enable all reasonable South Africans to hold their heads up once more and go forward in hope at last.

Declaration of Intent

The government hereby declares its solemn intention to:

1. Stop immediately all removals of people for ideological reasons.

Tearing down homes and forcing people out is morally and politically indefensible. In policy terms, it is pointless. South Africa cannot be turned into a whites-only haven and the government knows it. It no longer needs to pretend.

2. Repeal the offensive sections of the Immorality Act and the Mixed Marriages Act.

We do not need to wait another half a year (for heavens sake!) for a parliamentary committee to tell us what everyone knows: these clauses have to go. Time lost is anger increased.

3. Abolish or drastically moderate influx control within a year.

Employers, unions — timidly — even government agree something must be done. Look around, influx control has failed. What we have is the cruel pursuit of an illusion. Millions of "illegals" attest to that. Painstaking factual research by the Urban Foundation (hardly a radical institution) shows that the drift to cities is inexorable and ecnomically desirable, and that influx control is blighting the lives of all blacks, not just "illegals".

The price is too high to pay. We cannot afford the machinery necessary to jail offenders. We cannot afford to force millions of people to lurk in urban shadows. Yes; there will be problems, but they will not be as horrible in human terms as the ones we have now. And they can be resolved. South Africa's total urbanisation problem is hardly greater, in numbers, than that faced by a single town, Mexico City.

The years grace will give the country a chance to begin to address it.

4. Accept a live-and-let-live policy in grey areas where people of all races already live and work in amicable proximity. That means all C.B.D.s [Central Business Districts] too.

All that is required of the government is that it recognises a de facto reality. It may prefer races to live separately. In Hillbrow and elsewhere it does not happen, and the people themselves do not seem to mind. Why turn it into a problem? Neither does it matter to anyone whether shopkeeper or shopper is white or black.

5. Drop the colour bar in tertiary education and move more rapidly towards a central education authority.

It is happening anyway, but too slowly. If we cannot have a central education system for the moment, we can at least move towards it. Technicons will not collapse because different races use them.

6. Open publicly-owned amenities and facilities to all.

Those who prefer to take their pleasure privately can still do so. But beaches and parks ought to belong to all who care to use them. Signs saying "whites only" give deep offence and are discriminatory.

7. Stop detention without trial.

The ferocious reaction that followed the last wave of detentions surely proves that, no matter how valuable the police find this power, the country cannot afford to give it to them. Besides, the statistics do not support the police argument. In 1984, 453 people were detained and only 16 were charged. Last year, more than 1,000 were detained so far only 12 have been convicted.

8. Talk about South Africa's future to any people and organisations which blacks would like to put forward — including the ANC.

Easier said than done, perhaps. As things stand many black radicals do not want to talk to the government. That must not stop the offer being made. There can be no future without full consultation. Elay mortgages that future. Look at Rhodesia/Zimbabwe.

South Africa, held hostage by the right, has never been in more desperate need of bold leadership. The state president has shown political courage before. It will require even more courage to do what has to be done now.

If he will not act, we fear for the future of this country.

ANC Reconsidering Policy on Attacking Civilians

MB231733 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 20 Jan 85 p. 1

["Exclusive, Howard Barrell in Lusaka"]

[Text] The ANC is reconsidering its policy of not attacking "soft targets" like white civilians.

Senior ANC sources in Lusaka told *CITY PRESS* the movement is preparing for a new guerilla offensive — and that part of that preparation is to reassess its hesitancy to hit soft targets.

The current lull in guerilla activity following the Nkomati agreement will be relatively short-lived, the sources added. "Preparations are being made, and it will not be long before they come to fruition," a senior source told *CITY PRESS* during discussions on the ANC consultative conference to be held this year.

His disclosures were backed up by ANC president Oliver Tambo in an interview with me last week.

The sources said the conference would closely examine ANC military strategy over the past eight years, and major changes in method were likely.

This would probably include an end to hesitancy about hitting white civilians.

Sources also rejected a suggestion in some press circles that the ANC might abandon armed struggle following its Nkomati set-back.

The conference — the first major meeting of delegates from all sections of the ANC since the Morogoro consultative conference in 1969 — will also focus on the need to extend the ANC's underground machinery inside South Africa, he said.

Overall ANC political strategy — as drawn up at Morogoro in the document Strategy and Tactics of the ANC — is unlikely to change fundamentally.

But there are signs that some delegates will push for a much closer examination of the relationship between the working class and the black nationalist components of "the struggle."

About 200 delegates are expected to attend the conference, the date and venue of which are being kept a closely guarded secret.

The source said scores of reports, discussion papers and recommendations for the conference had already been received from ANC units inside South Africa. These were being combined with reports from exile sections of the movement in preparing the agenda.

An important feature of the conference is expected to be the progress through the ranks of the ANC of a number of the young men and women who joined the movement in the upheavals of 1976 and later.

New elections for the National Executive Committee [NEC] — the ANC's top administrative body — will also be held at the conference.

One result of the conference could also be the opening up of the committee to all races. Until now, membership has been restricted to African people. A few non-African members have served on other top bodies for some years.

If the conference does decide to open NEC ranks, it will be "a reflection of the ANC's attempt to bring together like-mined people of all races in united action as the nucleus of a future South Africa", according to the source.

"We will be testing the views of the membership on this point," the source added.

"There is a widespread belief that the ANC cannot mark time on a matter like this. People of other races have also been making great sacrifices."

A set of new operational and other structures could also arise out of the conference, according to sources.

Ciskei Government Regrets Officers Withdrawal

MB241742 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Ciskeian president, Mr Ray Marley, says the government regrets the South African Government's decision to withdraw all seconded personnel from the Ciskei Defense Force.

Speaking at (Jongumsubombu) Military Base, Mr Marley added that while every effort would be made to maintain friendly relations with Ciskei's neighbors, the country retains the right to decide which officials, whether seconded or not, serve the best interests of the nation. Mr Marley said it would appear to have been an emotional reaction on the part of South Africa to allege that Ciskei had breached international law simply because of a request that three seconded officials from South Africa be withdrawn from the service of Ciskei. He said Ciskei would do everything possible to restore mutual understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

In the mean time, it has been confirmed in Cape Town that all South African soldiers doing seconded duty in Ciskei have been withdrawn. The withdrawal of the soldiers, who according to a Defense Force spokesman numbered only a handful, follows last week's South African Government message which was handed to the Ciskei Government by the ambassador in Bisho.

ESCOM Asks U.S. Workers To Clarify Position

MB210600 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Jan 85

[Text] The Electricity Supply Commission, ESCOM, says that the American technicians employed at the Koeberg nuclear power station near Cape Town have been informed of American legislation and other regulations affecting their employment in South Africa, and have been asked to clarify their position with the American Embassy in Pretoria.

ESCOM did not know whether they had done this, because the commission regarded it as a personal matter. ESCOM was reacting to a report in *THE WASHINGTON POST* that about 40 American technicians were employed at Koeberg, in contravention of American legislation. The newspaper said that, in terms of the legislation, the technicians were obliged to obtain permission from the U.S. Government to work in South Africa.

SWAZILAND

Ex-Police, Army Officials Charged With Sedition

Apply for Bail

MB240540 Mbabane Television Service in English 1815 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Text] Defense counsel for four former senior police and army officers this afternoon opposed any application by crown prosecutor, Mr Shiyumhlaba Dlamini, for their bail application to be heard in camera. The four, former police commissioner Mr Titus Msibi, deputy commissioner of police Mr Edgar Hillary, former chief of staff Mr Mangomeni Ndzimandze, and Major Abednego Dlamini, were today formally charged with sedition. Mr Dlamini immediately made an application for their bail application to be heard in camera. Judgement on the matter was reserved by a Mbabane magistrate, Mr Sipho Zwane, until tomorrow morning.

Defense counsel for Mr Msibi, Mr Peter Dunseith, said the crown's application could not be valid because the matter had not reached the trial stage. His submission was endorsed by Mr Victor Dlamini appearing for Mr Ndzimandze and Mr Dlamini, and Mr Littler appearing for Mr Hillary.

The men are charged with holding a meeting at Matsapa Police College on 4 June last year at which they planned the arrest of the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, an unnamed cabinet minister, the commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, and other senior officials. The men are also alleged to have made the plans with a view to reinstating Mr Msibi and Colonel Ndzimandze in their former positions. The case continues in the magistrate's court tomorrow.

Granted Bail, Immediately Rearrested

MB241729 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] The four senior army and police officers charged with sedition were today granted bail of 300 emalangeni each by Mbabane magistrate, Mr Sipho Zwane, and were immediately rearrested and served with 60 days detention without trial orders. They were taken to Matsapa Central Prison. The four, Mr Titus Msibi, Mr Edgar Hillary, Mr Mangomeni Ndzimandze, and Major Abednigo Dlamini, were yesterday formally charged with sedition. The crown's application for the bail hearing to be held in camera was granted by the magistrate this morning.

AFP: Chief of Police Intelligence Arrested

AB250755 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 25 (AFP) — Sixty-day detention orders were served Thursday on Swaziland's former finance minister and four former security chiefs who appeared in court in the Swazi capital Mbabane on Wednesday charged with sedition and subversion, the SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION (SAPA) reported.

Meanwhile, according to SAPA, informed sources in Mbabane reported that the head of police intelligence, Sandile Mdiniso, had been arrested yesterday afternoon. No details or reasons were given.

Former Finance Minister Sishayi Nxumalo, former Army Commander Mangomeni Ndzimandze, and Major Abednigo Dlamini were detained in November, while former Police Commissioner Titus Msibi and Deputy Police Commissioner Edgar Hillary were arrested earlier this month. The arrests came after a crackdown on suspected government opponents during a power struggle in the landlocked Kingdom of Swaziland, which borders South Africa and Mozambique.

Mr Nxumalo, who has still not been charged formally in court, claimed before his dismissal that several prominent Swazis were involved in a multi-million-rand customs fraud. The other four men were charged with plotting to arrest the prime minister, Prince Dlamini Bhekimpi, new Police Commissioner Majaji Simelane, and other senior officials. They had allegedly planned to reinstate the dismissed army and police chiefs, Mr Ndzimandze and Mr Msibi. The four were not asked to plead to the charges, which carry a possible 20-year jail term.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Holds Question, Answer Session

MB231843 Harare Domestic Service in English 1415 GMT 23 Jan 85

[Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's question and answer session at the House of Assembly in Harare — live]

[Excerpt][Question indistinct][Mugabe]Thank you Mr Speaker, sir. It is a multiple question of [word indistinct] from Comrade (Malunga). The first part concerns the alleged, or what he alleges to be, flaws in the registration process. We are not aware that the flaws that he alleges are of a major nature. Whatever flaws there are, why should they not be referred to the Registrar General for its rectification. I am aware that the process is going on smoothly. There may be a few hitches here and there, but we cannot reverse the process because one or two slips might have miscarried, got run in the wrong direction. The second part of the question regarding the fact whether the elections will be free and fair. This is the intention of government to ensure that the elections are free and fair, and so Mr Honorable [passage indistinct]. We must follow that. ZANU, ZAPU, the UANC [United African National Council], whatever party is engaged in the election exercise must do our best to restrain our followers so that they can allow free campaigning and a free expression of views by members of the opposition parties. That we can do and all of us must work towards that objective [words indistinct]. But we must think, Mr Speaker, that the reason why we must ensure that the elections are mounted in a manner, are held in a manner, that is free and fair or rather that produces a free and fair result, is because we are committed to democracy and democracy means recognizing the legal order, recognizing the constitution, and recognizing the fact that as we began implementing the constitution we must [words indistinct] as a government resulting from the first elections. These elections were free and fair; they were democratic. They produced (?a particular government) and that government has got to be respected by everybody, by ZAPU especially. If they do not respect that government and continue (?to stir) and deploy dissidents, then we will have no alternative but to ensure that in those areas where dissidents [words indistinct] and are determined to continue to operate during the (?election), we have security forces to ensure that the campaign goes through.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks Mr Speaker. I am sure the honorable member Mr (Sutton) must have mistaken me for the minister of transport. [laughter] I am a little more than that. I happen to know, however, that there is an exercise taking place in the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Development to try and provide funds for the purchase of new aircraft for Air Zimbabwe. I suppose [words indistinct] that we [words indistinct] we [words indistinct] Air Zimbabwe with new aircraft. As to the operations of the infrastructure, I would rather the honorable member directed that question to the minister of transport. I think he knows much more of what is happening on the ground than I and until I am briefed as to the actual situation and the problems within the infrastructure there is very little (?I can do) and I would want the minister of transport on an appropriate occasion to answer that question. Thank you.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker. I think the position must be made clear. Independent members operate independently of ZANU, and ZANU operates independently of independents, but there is that relationship that is necessary to establish on matters of common interest. There will always be areas where we agree and areas where we do not agree. The independent members' philosophy is that of a multiparty state [words indistinct]. Why shouldn't we recognize that fact [words indistinct] from a different philosophy [words indistinct] so I am sure they will recognize [words indistinct] and we are [words indistinct] party which is the majority party. We are [words indistinct] I do not see any reason why their belief in a 1-party [word indistinct] in a multiparty democracy versus our belief in a 1-party [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks Mr Speaker, that question really surprises me. Because it [words indistinct] means we are not yet independent. We are a sovereign state. We have no business to have to invite people to observe our operations in the country, to observe how we govern, and pass judgement on us. In fact that is the very thing I take great exception to [word indistinct] object to any interference of that nature. We never sent an observer to the United States when Reagan was being reelected. [words indistinct] and we have sent an observer to Nicaragua because Nicaragua wanted us there. But we do not want anybody [words indistinct] to tell us as to how we conduct our elections [words indistinct]. We do not prevent interested persons from coming to see how we conduct our elections, but this should not be by way of formal invitations to everybody. What for? [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks, Mr Speaker. We must work toward the holding of our general elections in March. That is the target date and everything else [words indistinct]. If we have to work 48 hours a day we must do so and the communications commission I am sure is geared to that kind of [word indistinct] to [words indistinct] of the voters' roll. That will not take a long time. Already the information we have from the registrar [words indistinct] Why do we want to reverse the process? Are people afraid to go to elections? Why shouldn't we have our second general elections on time? I would want to ensure that the cooperation that leads to the elections being held in March are [words indistinct] and if members are talking of [word indistinct] accelerating the pace [words indistinct] any talk about [words indistinct] postponement. We have already postponed the elections actually by probably a month or two. We had wanted to hold them in about January, about this time, but it was not feasible. We believe that it is March as our date that the elections will have to be rescheduled. We must have a government that is confident of governing, that in which the people have faith, have expressed their faith and loyalty, and so we are in a hurry to have this exercise held and the sooner we be ourselves it is best. The sooner we commit ourselves to the exercise, the better. I am sure ZAPU will agree with me that it is necessary for us to hold elections in March.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you. That speech of a question, I do not know whether I can recall it all, but Mr Speaker, sir, I take note of the fact that the questioner has omitted to mention the feelings that are taking place in Matabeleland, the intimidation of ZANU people taking place in areas of Matabeleland. If that is an inadvertent omission then I would want the question rephrased. If it is aggressive then I [words indistinct]. Five years ago as those of us who were abroad learned, the honorable member's party was conducting a campaign throughout the country [words indistinct] the auxiliary forces that belong to the UANC which murdered, tortured, intimidated, harrassed [words indistinct] and even as we speak, that honorable member's party knows of the existence in South Africa of an auxiliary force that belongs to the UANC which South Africa would want, we know, to deploy into this country. At this dark background, the background of violence meted out in 1980. [sentence as heard] Look at the situation now. Look at the harmony that exists in the country. The demonstrations that they are talking about are by and large peaceful. Here and there you may have a stone that has been thrown not just by a member of my party but also by members of other parties against us. Where is Moven Ndlovu? Where is [name indistinct]? Where are those persons who yesterday headed local branches, districts committees of our party in Matabeleland, who have been reported dead? Why have they died? And these are things that we must take into account when you look at the situation overall. Who is doing the greatest violence to our constitution in the country? Who are greatest offenders? It is certainly not my party. However, this is not to say that there has not been any, a single demonstration, by my party. There have been demonstrations, truly, that have led to some degree of violence, and we reject those demonstrations which are violent. But in most cases they have been (?instigated) and [word indistinct] by ZAPU. We do not want the demonstrations to continue. But ZAPU must stop killing our members. If they continue killing our members, then demonstrations will be a natural reaction and response by the people to them.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you. We deplore the fact, Mr Speaker, that when Mozambique, in good faith, entered into the Nkomati agreement and committed itself to the enhancement of the cause of peace in this region, South Africa played a despondent role, and South Africa in our view has not honored its side of the Nkomati agreement. We are aware that banditry is on the increase in Mozambique, that South Africa is guilty in that situation and whatever [words indistinct] sincere gesture, sincere expression of any commitment in the Nkomati agreement. In view of the role that South Africa is playing in this region to destabilize all our socioeconomic systems, I cannot guarantee that there will be peace and calm in this region at all. As long as South Africa persists in its course to destabilize our sytems, there will continue to be insecurity in the region, and this is the reason why the Frontline States have got to work together to evolve some way, some mechanism, of defending themselves against the warmongers down south.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker. Mr (Butler) sounds a stranger to Zimbabwe doesn't he? [laughter] Emphasis on prestigious projects. Since my party assumed the reigns of government in 1980, we have striven hard to encourage development in all sectors, in the mining sector and agriculture, in the sphere of manufacturing. In trade and commerce, we have also continued to expand and extend our infrastructure. Surely, Mr (Butler) should be the first to admit that our agriculture is today much more viable than it was in 1980, that the role of the peasants has been transformed and made much more productive than in the past, that the commercial farmers have been made much more enthusistic through a system of incentives and, in response, they have increased their hectarages to the various crops. The mining sector is improving as the world market, the international scene, improves. Yes, we have had some problems in the manufacturing sector, but, of course, that sector is also reviving. He has made reference to the need for a chemical, pulp and paper industry. Incidentally, I was discussing that very subject yesterday with the minister of industry and technology, and so I thank him for raising that one. It is a matter of great concern to all of us and with fresh ideas I ask Mr (Butler) to submit them to the minister of industry and technology who would be very happy to benefit by his wisdom. But he should be the last man really to ask a question which tended to create the impression that this government has done nothing for the country except to deal with prestigious projects. And how many projects is he talking about? The [name indistinct] conference center, that to us is a very important project. As we become a center for international conferences and debates with many people wishing to hold their conferences here, we must be able to provide adequate facilities. Zimbabwe is more [word indistinct]. To say Zimbabwe is no longer living in isolation is to suggest that once there was a Zimbabwe which was in isolation. It was Rhodesia in isolation, and the laager is gone. We now are part of the broader community, the international community, and we must see ourselves in

that context. We are a popular country, many conferences or many organizations seek to hold their conferences here, and surely Zimbabwe must be able to place itself admirably to the rest of the world. But having said that, I would want Mr (Butler) to get educated [words indistinct] to discuss with our various ministries or ministers. The minister of agriculture can educate you on how we have tried to improve our agricultural performance in various areas. I am told that the peasants have increased their cotton acreage this year by 50 percent. There has also been an increase in the main acreage by 15 percent, and so across the board, and what is he complaining about? We are not starving. We are (?self-sufficient) and I am sure we will be able to feed other nations at the end of this season and we are proud to be what we are. We are proud of our performance. Thank you.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks, Mr Speaker. I am here as prime minister and the questions being asked are being directed at the prime minister of the country. But the honorable members are asking questions which require that I address them as [words indistinct] and president of ZANU. We have had a very understanding policy, especially toward ZAPU. We have always regarded ZAPU as a partner in the revolution and therefore as an ally until ZAPU demonstrated their antagonism to ZANU. What are we [words indistinct] the talks between ZANU and ZAPU were attainable [words indistinct]. But the conditions or demands that came from ZAPU were completely outrageous, preposterous, and [words indistinct] in view of the demands they made. But then also it appeared to us that ZAPU was not really for an alliance. It was preparing its war against ZANU and against the government. They were not keen to put an end to dissident activity, not keen to ensure peace and calm in the country, not keen to commit themselves to democracy, and against that background [words indistinct] and these were [words indistinct] intended to carry on with that party. But I am also aware that ZAPU decided to reject ZANU as an ally and sought new allies, and went into a union with the UANC and Bishop Muzorewa, and Sithole and his (?incongruous) lot. And so there is [words indistinct] give to ZAPU with the parties [words indistinct] their desire. But the big man I don't know, I suppose it is South Africa. [laughter].

So [words indistinct] our party that is open to, is amenable to, reason. We definitely are prepared to discuss issues of peace and security in our country. But once you have situation where some parties that set themselves to destabilization of the system [words indistinct]. We would want [words indistinct] conditions prevailing that will lead to free and fair elections. As to my own role in ensuring that there is an atmosphere which will yield free and fair elections, well, I am here [words indistinct] and as head of government my role is to [words indistinct] in order to sit down and discuss with members of my cabinet on how we can promote (?reconciliation) [words indistinct]. As the honorable member knows on [words indistinct] not long ago that he used to sit with us in cabinet, conferring with the rest of us on matters of security and matters that pertain to government [words indistinct] situation is one which requres that we intensify our efforts in order to strengthen [words indistinct]. I am myself amenable to anyone with suggestions on how we can bring about greater peace in the country and [words indistinct] that talk the language of [words indistinct], antidissident language, the language that ZAPU must be got rid off, were indeed on your side, I do not see it in [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker. The program "Road to Socialism" is one of the many programs that the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation [ZBC] has told the public of Zimbabwe. It is not meant to be the [word indistinct] for ensuring the implementation of socialism in the country. The instrument of that is the party and the party in government. The party has ennuciated [words indistinct] and it is the party, as it imparts its ideas and programs to government which will ensure (?socialism succeeds.) And if it fails, it is the party which we should hold responsible. But there are aids that exist to promote socialism, and the "Road to Socialism" is only one such aid. There are various other fora, party fora: the branch and its cells, the district and its branches, the province and its districts, representing the party in various areas.

All those are fora, Mr Speaker, through which we promote the doctrine of socialism. And if you look at the one item on television, which in fact is not used by the majority of the people, but by those who are fortunate to have television sets, as the only (?influential instrument of party) [words indistinct]. However, views have been expressed about this program by various people, and some are for it [words indistinct]; others think it should be stopped altogether; still others believe it should be moderated. Our view is that it must relate to what we are doing. It must relate to the practice of [words indistinct]. Theory and practice must be matched, and if that program can be transformed into such an aid that it should keep socialism in progress, then I am sure it will have achieved the goal of enhancing what the party and government are trying to implement. But otherwise it is just one of the aids we are [words indistinct], and not the principal method. [words indistinct]

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Mr Speaker sir, [indistinct passage]

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Mr Speaker sir, I am not even aware that we were beaten by ZAPU in that area. If we were beaten, then I issue congratulations to you and I hope you do better during the elections. I am not the person who is in charge of the media. In fact, our media are responsible for their own actions, even the minister does not instruct them to publish this or to leave this out. But if those results were brought to their notice and they did not publish them, well, I do not know their reasons for not doing so. But I would ensure that if they get the results, they should publish them. They have published other results, either those in which we won or those in which you won and lost in the past, and I do not see why the [word indistinct] were not published. I hope you can see [words indistinct] with the aid of dissidents [words indistinct] [laughter].

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thank you, Mr Speaker. I gave this [word indistinct]

that any person who seeks to disrupt the elections, any lawless character, any would-be assassin, will certainly be removed from the scene during the election if we get to know, and if the honorable member would assist the security forces in pointing out [words indistinct] dissident elements are, I am sure the security forces would not hesitate in taking action. Even if that action be directed at some members of this house who will promote lawlessness, regardless of party [words indistinct], I can assure you, I will see that elections are held peacefully.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks, Mr Speaker, sir. Apparently, the leadership code has become so much of an interesting subject to this house that everytime at question time, a question is asked on it. It is a ZANU leadership code first and foremost, we have said, and so it affects the leadership of the party. But even though it is a party code within the party, we have already started taking action and members have been asked to declare the properties which they own. Yes, some have, some are in the process of doing so, and some are doing it quite honestly, I can assure you. We will not allow anyone to get away with any dishonest report to our committee, to the Central Committee. And in any event we will discover, we will be able to discover whether we have been told the truth or we have been told a falsity. And our members, or members of the Central Committee are geared to ensuring that the leadership code works. But you do not expect us to come and report to this house about events which occur in ZANU. Why should we? Why are you interested? Why is anyone interested in event which occur in ZANU? We are putting our house in order, can assure you, and our house will stand in the manner in which we want it to stand. I can assure you, Mr (Shields), that it's not dead.

[Alfred Nkomo] Thank you, Mr Speaker. Will the prime minister consider releasing Comrade Dumisa Dabengwa, [noise from the house] [words indistinct] and others before the elections take place so they could also exercise their constitutional rights?

[Mugabe] The answer, Mr Speaker, is a heavy no.

[Question] Will the prime minister comment on the recent increase in the latter half of last year to the housing allowances of his ministers, which went up from $550 a month to $1,000 a month, bearing in mind two points. Firstly that the allowance is not subject to income tax and the salary is [words indistinct] $24,000 a year; and secondly, that it coincided with government action to increase further taxation on similar allowances for fringe benefits in the private sector. Surely, does that not amount to double standards?

[Mugabe] Thanks, Mr Speaker, sir. The requirement under the law is that we constantly review the housing allowances, that it is compulsory, imperative, that should the situation have changed, and require that the allowances be automatically increased, they must stand increased. And the honorable member knows that. He knows that. So, in view of the situation as we saw it, it was necessary that we review these housing allowances and that increase should occur. Let it not be forgotten that we have fulltime ministers. I do not want to lead a team of slaves. We increased the salaries of the members of the public service. We have done so since 1980 at various times, and last year in particular we had a 5 percent increase across the board. Over and above that 5 percent, every public servant of the rank of under-secretary up to the permanent secretary got another 15 percent increase to make it 20 percent or over 20 percent as increased altogether. Why can't my ministers be considered as deserving of some consideration? In fact, I do not agree that the salaries of the permanent secretaries must be higher than the salaries of ministers. I do not agree to that, I mean, with that kind of system at all, and we will be reviewing salaries and including those of ministers. You see, — yes [word indistinct], I agree, and MP's and senators — so that we do not have a situation in which those who are supposed to lead are being illtreated by our system. It is just unfair. They pay their taxes like everybody else. We all pay our taxes, I agree. Out of my salary of $34,500, some 16 to [number indistinct] thousand have gone to the treasury. That is our system. That is how we keep our system going. And so, where ministers have not only that obligation alongside others — but a 48-hour schedule to ensure that the state, the wheels of the state continue to operate, and are oiled all the time — we must ensure that they are well remunerated, and not treated as [word indistinct] staff.

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Mr Speaker sir, I can only answer what I assume is the question. When a question is involved and [words indistinct], I aks you to give it back to the honorable questioner for [word indistinct] [laughter]

[Question indistinct]

[Mugabe] Thanks Mr Speaker. The answer is a decided yes. [Words indistinct] the teachers in the teaching service, in the other walks of life on the railways, we have had some Indian people, expatriate Indian technicians. In the Air Force we have a Pakistani technician. In the Army we have the British with their [word indistinct] team. We have Tanzanians also operating within the system. We have had Koreans coming to render service, the Chinese, and so the list goes on. And all these have rendered a tremendous service to Zimbabwe. Do not forget we are only 5 years old, and at that age normally a child does not even go to school, he goes to the nursery or preschool. But here we are, soundly on our feet, and we must thank those nations which have responded to our call for assistance by making available to us some of their nationals. In some cases they have paid the salaries or [word indistinct] the salaries of expatriates. We are indebted to them for the service that they have rendered. We are very happy. Here and there, there might have been actions of an individual who could not quite fit into the system, but those are exceptions to the rule. There is a general [word indistinct] that they have performed magnificently.

Mangwende Meets With Iranian Envoy

LD242042 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 24 Jan 85

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 24, IRNA — Iran's Ambassador to Zimbabwe Seyyed Aqaie Wednesday praised that country's stand towards international organisations and the Iraqi imposed war. Speaking to Zimbabwe Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende,

Aqaie also announced Iran's support for the campaigns of the front-line countries against the South African regime.

The Zimbabwe minister called for the conclusion of contracts for extensive political, economic and cultural cooperation with the Islamic Republic and expressed satisfaction with the expansion of mutual relations between the two countries.

He also welcomed the recent guidelines of Imam Khomeyni on establishment of relations among the oppressed countries of the Third World and stressed the necessity of these cooperations.